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AND ETHIOPIA SHALL STRETCH FORTH HER HAND

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AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

JOHN C. DANCY'S SUCCESS AS RECORDER OF DEEDS

HAS INTERESTING AND UNIQUE CAREER

President Roosevelt Well Pleased With His Faithful and Efficient Service—Alexander H. Brooks Appointed Clerk.

Special by Thompson's National News Bureau.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 30.—The Hon. John C. Dancy, recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia, has come to be regarded as a fixture in the official life of the nation's capital. He is personally popular, is an exceptionally capable administrator of the people's business, and is a factor in a score of activities looking toward the moral, social and political uplift of his race.

If the spirit of Mr. Dancy's predecessors in the recordership of deeds—Frederick Douglass, B. K. Bruce, C. H. J. Taylor, James C. Matthews, James Monroe Trotter and Henry P. Cheatham—could come back to the scene of their former labors on the ground floor of the District Courthouse, they would not know the place. Everything has been changed. The ancient furnishings in the front office have given way to a modern steel lattice partition; steel file-cases have taken the place of the wooden ones, and dilapidated records in long-hand have been copied on book typewriters and treated to new bindings. The office looks, for all the world, like an up-to-date bank, and the methods of conducting business have been reformed to keep pace with the new furniture. Deputy Recorder Dutton is on hand to take good care of the routine work, and an efficient corps of clerks perform their responsible duties with a promptness and silence that suggests a master organizing hand at the helm. The volume of business has steadily increased since Mr. Dancy assumed the reins seven years ago. At that time the surplus receipts turned into the United States Treasury, over and above office expenses, was only $500. For the current year, the amount turned over to Uncle Sam's coffers is $10,000. The number of copyists now employed on "piece" work is within the legitimate needs of the service, thus insuring a living compensation to each and guaranteeing the ability of the establishment to retain on its rolls a class of men and women of undoubted competence.

Mr. Dancy's public career is interesting and unique. He was twice appointed collector of customs at the port of Wilmington, N. C., thrice elected editor of the Star of Zion, the official organ of the 600,000 communicants of the A. M. E. Zion Church, and since 1902 has broken all records in point of efficiency and in length of service as recorder of deeds, holding at the same time the editorship of the Zion Quarterly, to which he was triumphantly elected at the General Conference of his church last May at Philadelphia. For fully three decades Mr. Dancy has been actively identified with the development of the church of James Varick, and has been one of the primary instrumentalities that have brought that body up to its present high estate. His constructive leadership has been potent in expanding it from a sectional organization, forming scarcely more than a fringe along the Atlantic Seaboard, into a truly national body, extending from ocean to ocean, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, and stretching forth its hand to Africa and the islands of the sea. It is worthy of note that when Mr. Dancy's present term as editor of the Zion Quarterly expires, he will have rounded out twenty-five years of service as an editor of the publication of his church. There is a well-founded rumor afloat that Mr. Dancy, in his desire to be known as a "twenty-five-year man" would have no serious objection to making his career symmetrical by rounding out a term of twenty-five years as recorder of deeds. And this may be no joke, for the chairman of the Speakers' Bureau admits freely that Mr. Dancy led the Negro orators on the stump and was asked for more frequently than any other "spellbinder" by the race throughout the country. He spoke upon every conceivable occasion, traveling thousands of miles, making long and short jumps through all of the pivotal States, and was personally complimented by both President Roosevelt and President-elect Taft upon the valuable character of his work from the pre-convention campaign to the day of the November election. Mr. Dancy's much-abused State of North Carolina elected three Republican members of Congress, beating out Indiana in this respect, the Hoosier State sending in but two. Mr. Dancy is much stronger in his position than many superficial observers have been reckoning on, and the men who are offering themselves as candidates are likely to find out ere long that they are barking up the wrong tree. President Roosevelt is particularly well pleased with the record Mr. Dancy has made as an official and as an ardent supporter of the administration, and there is no doubt that the eloquent North Carolinian will fare handsomely at the hands of his successor, who is a stickler for giving the full measure of credit where credit is rightfully due.

* * *

The announcement of the President's purpose to re-appoint Dr. W. D. Crum as collector of customs at Charleston, S. C., is meeting with the approval of the party leaders of both races, and the press of the country is saying some nice things about Mr. Roosevelt for his generous action in the matter. It is understood that the retention of Dr. Crum was asked by Dr. Booker T. Washington, and in view of the collector's flawless record, the President felt that he was due another term. No formal objection has come on from Charleston, and it is not thought that the old fight will be resumed when the Senate is called upon to confirm his nomination.

* * *

The thirteenth census is nearly upon us, and some good official pickings are in sight in connection therewith. Special agents, clerks, messengers, laborers, enumerators, etc., will have to be appointed, and of the thousands of helpers needed the Negro wants an adequate share. The race did fairly well under the twelfth census, but was not nearly as well cared for as it should have been. A few were retained in the permanent bureau and are there yet. Appointees are to be designated by the members of Congress, as before, but the clerks, it is understood, will be compelled to stand a special examination before being put to work. Each Senator and Representative will have a specified quota alotted to him for his State or district, based on population—and maybe the strength of his "pull" will cut some ice in the equation. The employment, though temporary, is fairly remunerative, and will relieve the pressure for patronage to a moderate extent. The "spoils" system is not hurtful to our people if they get the right men behind them. It behooves the anxious ones to get their "influence" together and start early, so as to get a snug point of vantage on the ground floor.

* * *

There is some agitation as to who will head the colored division of the inaugural parade. At the last two inaugurations that distinguished honor fell to Col. Judson W. Lyons, who was then Register of the Treasury. There are those who think the precedent of having the Register as leader should again be followed, which would point to the selection of Dr. W. T. Vernon. Others reason that Col. Lyons was not chosen because he was Register of the Treasury, but because he was the only colored member of the national committee, and was recognized on that account. Another not less insistent group declares that inasmuch as the President-elect is an Ohio man, it would be the graceful thing to place a prominent colored Ohio leader at the head of this division. Then, again, the claim is made that the function, being local, the honor should go to a District man. The problem is still in the air, and Major-General J. Franklin Bell, grand marshal of the entire pageant, is giving no indication as to what action he will take when the selection is formally put up to him.

* * *

Mr. Alexander H. Brooks of this city has been appointed to a clerkship in the Department of Agriculture by Secretary James Wilson, and has been assigned to duty in the Secretary's office as clerk in charge of the executive mail. This is the first appointment of the kind ever given to a colored man in the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Brooks went into this department about twenty years ago as a messenger and his present advancement is the result of a clerk-promotion examination which he passed last April.

* * *

Senator Foraker's bill calling upon the Secretary of War to furnish certain facts in connection with the employment of detectives to investigate the Brownsville riot will be called up as soon as possible after the re-opening of Congress January 4. At this time the Ohio Senator will make a lengthy speech on the subject, and other Senators are expected to submit pertinent remarks. It is hoped that the issue will be adjusted amicably before the retirement of President Roosevelt.

* * *

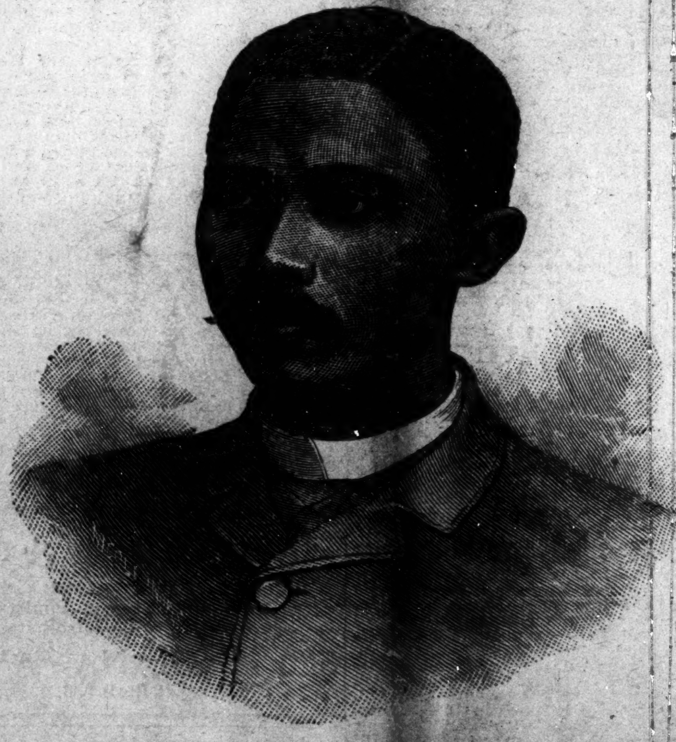
According to army advices, the three colored regiments now in the Philippines are to come home within a few months. The 10th Cavalry will sail May 1 and will be stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont; the 9th Cavalry will sail May 15 and to be stationed at Fort D. A. Russell; the 25th Infantry is to sail Sept. 15 and to be stationed at Fort Logan, Colo., and Whipple Barracks, Arizona. First Regimental Sergeant George A. Holland of the 24th Infantry, now at Madison Barracks, New York, is in the city on business of a highly personal nature, and states that the 24th will be creditably represented in the inaugural pageant on March 4.

* * *

Prof. J. Gerald Tyler, formerly connected with the M Street High School of this city, but now director of music in the high school at Kansas City, Mo., is in the city spending the holiday season with his brother, Auditor Ralph W. Tyler. He spoke entertainingly and gave several selections at M Street High School one day last week and was given a warm reception by his quondam associates and pupils. He is making a success in his new work in the West and has practically revolutionized musical standards in the territory covered by his influence. He is a baritone of remarkable range and sweetness and has filled many engagements in various sections of Missouri and Kansas and Nebraska since leaving Washington. Mr. Tyler is a graduate of Oberlin College, being the first colored man to receive a diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. It is reported that he contemplates a trip abroad in the near future to take a course in advanced vocal and instrumental music.

* * *

The Negro is pretty fairly represented on the general committees in charge of the Taft inauguration. On the executive committee there are Judge Robert H. Terrell and R. R. Horner. Mr. Terrell, as everybody knows, is a judge in the municipal court, a graduate of Harvard College and law departments and served most acceptably some years ago as principal of the M Street High School. He is prominent in the Masonic, Odd Fellows and other fraternal orders, besides being an active member of the Lincoln Temple Congregational Church. Mr. Horner is a well-known practitioner at the District bar, is a member of the Board of Education, was a delegate to the Republican national convention at Chicago last June, and is connected with St. Luke's P. E. Church. Both appointments give satisfaction to the citizens of Washington and all agree that they are representative of the best thought and character of the race in the District. Mr. Thomas P. Morgan, chairman of the committee on civic organizations, has named the following colored members to assist him: Messrs. Ralph W. Tyler, W. T. Vernon, John C. Dancy, Whitfield McKinley, James A. Cobb, Dr. E. D. Williston, J. W. Lyons, T. M. Dent, Elijah Brown and Dr. J. A. McDuffie. Mr. Daniel Murray, who has given excellent service in three previous inaugurations as the head of the sub-committee on public comfort, acting with the full committee on general matters, will again be placed in charge of the work of looking after the especial comfort of colored visitors. A competent colored newspaper man will have a berth on the press committee and several Negroes will be given places on the committee on public order.



HON. JOHN C. DANCY,
Recorder of Deeds at Washington, D. C.

Contributions are being made by public-spirited citizens. So far Judge Terrell is the only colored contributor, his name standing opposite $25 in the coin of the realm. In 1904, contributions were made by Messrs. John C. Dancy, J. W. Lyons, John F. Cook, L. C Bailey, Isaac H. Smith and one or two others. The social features are still in process of incubation.

THE NATION'S CAPITAL IN BRIEF.

Miss A. M. Barnes, a trained nurse of Baltimore, has entered Freedmen's Hospital to specialize for one year. She was quite successful during her two years of work at her profession in the Monumental City.

* * *

At the recent dinner at Gray's in honor of the colored members of the board of trustees of the Jeanes Fund, Judge Robt. H. Terrell presided as toastmaster, and Recorder John C. Dancy delivered the address of welcome on behalf of the hosts.

* * *

George Albert Hawkins, for many years the body servant of General Grant while he was in the field and after he became President, and for twenty years a driver for the Presidents of the United States, is dead at the age of 75 years. He was a native of Anne Arundel county, Maryland.

* * *

Architect W. Sidney Pittman has been paid $2,000 as his fee for drawing the plans for the $95,000 public school building at Garfield. The structure is to contain twelve rooms and is to be one of the finest in the District of Columbia. The award is another feather in the cap of Mr. Pittman, who won out in a solid field of Caucasian draftsmen.

* * *

Dr. Booker T. Washington was in the city Monday and met the president and trustees of Howard University. His time was too limited to visit all the departments of the institution but managed to take a peep into the class-room of Dr. A. M. Curtis, where the eminent surgeon was "quizzing" his students on some fine points of surgical methods.

* * *

There is no truth in the oft-repeated report that Justice John M. Harlan is to retire from the Supreme Bench. Nor is there a grain of truth in the rumor sent to Boston by an anonylous correspondent to the effect that Assistant Superintendent Roscoe Conkling Bruce is trying to undermine the higher educational system in our public schools. The Ananias Club is working overtime these days.

* * *

By invitation of the Council of Upper Classmen of Howard University a good-sized audience listened to an able presentation of an interesting case at law, in which six speakers appeared for the litigants. The affair was under the direct auspices of the Blackstone Club, of which C. C. Sanford is president and L. A. Hilton is secretary. A satisfactory decision was rendered by Prof. Francis Williams, the presiding justice.

* * *

When Prof. W. S. Scarborough was in this city a few days ago he paid a pleasant visit to President Roosevelt, in company with Register W. T. Vernon and Dr. John F. Hurst, financial secretary of the A. M. E. Church. The President evinced a deep and sympathetic interest in the future of Wilberforce University and felt that the plans outlined for its betterment by the new chief executive were practical and would work out successfully.

* * *

Prof. L. B. Moore, dean of the Teachers' College of Howard University, was in Philadelphia last week attending a meeting of the Association of Doctors of Philosophy of the University of Pennsylvania, held to prepare for the celebration of the centenary of the death of Charles Darwin. The association met as the guest of the Botanical Society of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Professor reports a highly enjoyable visit.

* * *

Dr. A. M. Curtis has been to Richmond, Va., where he performed a successful operation on William P. Burrell, secretary of the United Order of True Reformers. Dr. Curtis is the principal member of the staff of consulting surgeons of Richmond Hospital and is frequently called there for work of this kind. This week Dr. Curtis was called suddenly to Freedmen's Hospital for an operation for appendicitis and pulled his patient through in excellent shape.

* * *

Prof. W. A. Hunton, international secretary of the Y M C A., was the speaker at the men's big meeting last Sunday at True Reformers Hall. Mr. Hunton was secretary of the association at Norfolk, the first established for colored men, before taking up the international work. He was also a delegate to the World's Student Christian Conference at Tokio, Japan, last year. He is one of the most useful workers the Y. M. C. A. has ever had in the field. Mrs. Hunton, his talented wife, has gone on a tour of Europe.

* * *

Register W. T. Vernon is to be the orator of the day at the second annual Lincoln-Douglass banquet of the Crispus Attucks Republican Club at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 12th of February. This will be in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln and the birthday of Frederick Douglass. Prof. W. S. Scarborough, president of Wilberforce University, will also be a "star" attraction of the occasion. The affair will be national in scope and invitations will be sent broadcast over the country.

* * *

Rumor has it that Prof. Roscoe Conkling Bruce, assistant superintendent of the Washington schools, is willing to enter the diplomatic service of the United States. He is said to have his eye on the Haytian mission. Mr. Bruce refuses to discuss the subject, but should he determine to leave his present work, in which he has scored brilliantly under the most exasperating circumstances, there is no doubt that he would make a success no less pronounced in the field of diplomacy, for which he is exceptionally fitted by temperament, natural ability and intellectual training.

* * *

Talk is again heard of a national testimonial to Dr. Booker T. Washington. The occasion is designed to afford interested friends of Tuskegee Institute to confer a number of scholarships on worthy young colored men, while honoring its distinguished principal. The Washington Bee suggests Auditor Ralph W. Tyler as a suitable man to take the led in such a movement, in which suggestion we heartily concur. Dr. Washington has a host of friends here and everywhere and they will rally to any project Mr. Tyler may have in mind for the enlargement of the far-reaching work at Tuskegee.

* * *

Bishop J. W. Smith of the A. M. E. Zion Church returned to the city Monday last after an absence of several weeks attending the conferences in the South. Accompanied by Mrs. Smith, he left almost immediately for Philadelphia to attend a banquet given in his honor by Rev. P. A. Wallace and the congregation of the A. M. E. Zion church in that city. Bishop Smith has one of the finest homes owned by colored men in Washington, located in a fashionable neighborhood. It is estimated to be worth $10,000, and is the headquarters of the prelates and ministers of the church who journey through the capital to and from the South.

* * *

Arrangements are being made for a Methodist Christian Congress under the auspices of the Washington Zion Methodist Preachers' Association, to be held at Galbraith A. M. E. Zion Church February 13, 14 and 15. Ministerial and lay delegates representing the churches and missions in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, included in the Philadelphia and Baltimore conference territory, and fraternal delegates from other denominations will be in attendance. Bishop J. W. Smith and Presiding Elder M. L. Blalock will deliver addresses. The local committee on arrangements is headed by Rev. S. L. Corrothers.

* * *

Major Charles W. Fillmore of Ohio expects to sever his connection with the Treasury Department at an early date, and is perfecting his plans to embark in a financial enterprise with the Broadway firm of A. T. Pierson & Co. of New York, handling stocks and bonds and other gilt-edge securities on a large scale. Major Fillmore is of the opinion that the surplus funds of our lodges, churches and savings institutions could be more advantageously invested than is true of the present, and it is his purpose to make a specialty of seeking out such organizations and affording them an opportunity to place their money where it will yield the very best returns.

* * *

Edward Thornton Burrell, who has long been the confidential secretary to Adjutant General F. C. Ainsworth of the War Department, is a versatile genius. In addition to being an expert stenographer, a poet and a man of no mean attainments, a writer and a factor in the social life of Washington, it may surprise his intimate friends to know that he is a fine cook. He can broil, roast, fry and bake in a manner that would make the chef at the New Willard turn green with envy, and those who have had a taste of his Boston baked beans say they are a "dream." The so-called higher education and the ability to work with the hands find an admirable meeting-place in the soul of Mr. Burrell.

* * *

Supervising Principal John C. Nalle of the public schools has been indefinitely suspended and will later be demoted for alleged neglect of duty. He signed a payroll carrying the name of a teacher who had died several days before, and when given his teachers' checks he handed that of the deceased to a Miss Martha Liggons, who had authority to receive the same prior to the death of the principal, Miss A. C. Waller. Miss Liggons cashed the check in the dead woman's name. Upon discovery of the fact, no criminal intent could be established, but it was deemed expedient to punish Mr. Nalle as above stated. Miss Liggons was suspended for thirty days as a penalty for her part of the transaction. Much regret is felt for Mr. Nalle. His culpability is not rated as anything more than a hasty oversight.

* * *

Mr. Thomas J. Calloway, to whose administrative talent the main credit for the success of the Negro Department of the Jamestown Exposition belongs, is making a name for himself as a barrister in the courts of the District. Voluntarily retiring from a clerk's desk in the War Department less than a year ago, he has built up a civil practice that has made the landmarks of the town "sit up and take notice." Besides this he is operating largely in real estate of a very desirable type. Mr. Calloway has recently become the actuary of a big development company, the object of which is to plat and sell to colored home-seekers a tract of land in the thriving suburb of Lincoln, northeast of the city on the Washington, Annapolis and Baltimore electric line. From the definite investments in hand and the many inquiries from people of means, the outlook for Mr. Calloway's project seems very good.

R. W. THOMPSON.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Christmas has passed and the people are preparing for new resolutions...The entertainments by the various society folk were pleasant affairs and many. On Wednesday, Dec. 23, Mr. and Mrs. Benj. H. Lucas, on the occasion of their fifth wedding anniversary, entertained at their residence, 1105 East Jefferson street. There were about 70 present, who say the affair was the pleasantest of the kind held in Springfield for some time. The house was beautifully decorated and most brilliantly illuminated. The diversions consisted of music by the noted little Miss Hortense Mosby, vocal solo by Miss Gertrude Williams, solo by Mrs. Benj. H. Lucas and others, toasts by Dr. S. A. Ware and R. A. Byrd. The affair was a brilliant success...The Rev. C. H. Jones has moved to Terre Haute, Ind...A very enjoyable program was rendered at New Hope, Union, Pleasant Grove and Zion Baptist Church Christmas eve...J. E. Thompson, the grocer, has done a phenomenal business. His store was literally packed with all kinds of good things for the Yuletide...The Freeman is on sale in Springfield at 815, 728 and 1024 East Washington street...The young men gave a swell entertainment Dec. 30 at Masonic Hall...Watch next week's Forum.

FLINT, MICH.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Services at the A. M. E. Church are held Sunday a. m. at 10:30, Sunday school at 3 p. m., evening service at 7:30 p. m...A concert was given by the small children of the Sunday school on Thursday evening, Dec. 24, at the close of which nice presents were distributed from a Christmas tree to all children present...Mrs. Hattie Lyons and sister, Mrs. Lizzie Joiner, gave a luncheon for their uncle, Henry Harvey, of Chatham, Ont., who is visiting his sister, Mrs. P. H. Morgan...Estel Becks, who is studying at Ann Arbor College, is spending his vacation in this city with his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Becks...Mr. and Mrs. Preston Fisher of Toledo, O., are visiting for a month with Mrs. Preston's parents on Park street...Mr. and Mrs. Starks entertained ten of their friends at a fine Christmas dinner...Our Sunday school is increasing each week both in number of pupils and financially, but we hope the teachers will realize the responsibilty that rests upon them and be more prompt in their attendance...J. O. Linney and daughter are visiting in Lansing for a few days...On next Sunday afternoon the annual election of Sunday school officers will be held at 3 p. m.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Charles Mosley was taken sick suddenly in the Grand Opera House block barber shop, where he was employed, and was taken to the City Hospital; he died about two hours later. A post mortem disclosed that death was due to uraemia...Mrs. Amanda Godsey of St. Louis is the guest of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Billups of Blair street...Irving Williams, secretary and business manager of the "Colored Gophers," is busy scouring the country for next season's team. The team of last year won a large percentage of their games. Such well-known stars as Bruce Petway, Al Robinson, John Lloyd and Frank Duncan, of last season's Philadelphia Giants, who are now playing in Cuba, are being sought for next season's team and will doubtless be seen in the Gopher uniform. Should the efforts of Messrs. Williams and Reid meet with success, the Gophers will be a feature of the coming season at the proposed new ball park on Sundays...Craig Williams delivered an excellent address to the Young Men's Sunday Club at St. James A. M. E. Church last Sunday afternoon...J. Edgar Murphy won a large turkey at the mail clerks' raffle last week...Benjamin Sears has purchased the property at the corner of Farrington and Fuller streets...The Colored Women's State Federation of Clubs will hold their anniversary in Duluth some time in February. The Duluth clubs have planned to royally entertain the president, Mrs. Lillian A. Turner, the week of January 25. She is an eloquent speaker and a hard worker for the uplifting of humanity. Under her jurisdiction we will expect a great deal from the federation...Edward Robinson of Aurora avenue returned last week from Los Angeles, Cal., where he has been ill in a hospital...The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Minor certainly deserve some comment. The quartet sang at the Christmas exercises at St. James Church and received much applause. Their mother is considered to be the best singer among our people in St. Paul and evidently they have inherited their talent for singing...Joseph H. Jacobs has been quite feeble for some time and is now confined to his home...The ball given by the ladies of the Eastern Star on Christmas eve was well attended. ...One of the city lecturers of the W. C. T. U. delivered an address to the congregation of the Pilgrim Baptist Church last Sunday morning, and in response to her solicitations many of its members signed the pledge...Mrs. Adelaide Hood has returned from her visit to Memphis, Tenn., and Chicago...Henry Crawford has The Freeman for sale.

MARION, IND.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hinton of West Sixth street very pleasantly entertained at dinner Christmas in honor of Mrs. Ernestine and Master Golf, Springfield, O., and Miss Mayme Hunter of Indianapolis, the guests of Mrs. Harry Nolan. Covers were laid for Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Smith and daughters and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nolan...Complimentary to their out-of-town guests, Mr. and Mrs. Hattison Knox and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Green charmingly entertained Christmas. In the afternoon a skating party was tendered them at the South Side Skating Rink. At 6 p. m. an elaborate dinner was served at the Knox home, after which they witnessed the play "Texas Pals," presented at the Indiana, and then another skating party was enjoyed from 11 p. m. to 1 a. m. The party was as follows: Dr. and Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Clem Hill, Mrs. Ladie Luckert, Messrs. George Parker, James Turner, Leonard Harris, all of Logansport; Miss Ada Frazier, Clarence Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Mattison Knox, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Green and Master Earl Green...Mrs. Dixon of South George street delightfully entertained at a family dinner Christmas. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Lee McElroy, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Matthews, Mrs. Jeff Ramsey of Indianapolis, Mrs. Josephine Ralson of St. Joe, Mich., and Harry Crawford...Mrs. Ernest Roberts and children of Springfield, O., are the guests of her mother, Mrs. Harry Nolan. ...Mrs. John Chavis has as her guest Malissa Snelon of Vandalia, Mich., her aunt...Mr. and Mrs. Frank Modlen and children, Miss Marie and Master Clarence, of Spiceland, are spending a few days in the city visiting Mrs. Moddlin's sister, Mrs. E. S. Weaver...Mrs. George Cunningham is on the sick list.

MT. VERNON, IND.

Special to T E FREEMAN.

Mr. and Mrs. Emic Pippin and Mrs. Lucy McGall were shopping in Evansville Wednesday...The Walden lodge and Sheba chapter No. 4 held their installation at Kruge's Hall Wednesday night. The Odd Fellows lodge held their installation at Hagaman Hall Friday night...The Good Samaritan lodge held their installation at the Free Baptist Church Saturday night. ...The Eastern Star lodge held their annual sermon at the A. M. E. Church Sunday afternoon. The program was a credit to the order. Too much cannot be said in praise of the papers read. "Charity," by Mrs. Minnie Johnson, and "Wisdom," by Miss Minnie Bishop, were especially good...Mrs. Caroline Cheetam died at her home on Locust street Saturday morning and was buried Sunday afternoon...James Johnson and Mr. Smith of Shawneetown, Ill., visited Wm. Johnson and family Monday...Mrs. Anna Rudy entertained at dinner Christmas day... Rev. T. F. White and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Offutt an out-of-town guests. ...Mr. Trail of Henry county is visiting his sister, Mrs. J. M. Benson...Mrs. Mattie Felton is spending the holidays with her brother in Abilen, Miss...Mrs. Mary Tompkins surprised her husband and children Christmas eve by having a fine upright piano placed in her home...Iral Jones and wife entertained at 6 o'clock dinner Saturday evening Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Johnson, Mrs. Alvis...Prof. Jackson's mother of Evansville spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. George Philips and family...Mrs. Virginia Suggs went over to Henderson, Ky., Monday...Miss Nettie Foster and Master Rollen Anderson spent Friday and Saturday in Evansville visiting Nuten Foster and family...Mrs. Amelia Foster was in Evansville Saturday night...Mrs. Sarah Pippin and little son Erwin are visiting in Morganfield, Ky., this week...Rev. Alfred Dunagan spent Sunday in Carmi, Ill...The revival will begin at the A. M. E. Church from watch meeting night.

GREENVILLE, TEX.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

It was one of the greatest Christmases ever known in Greenville...Bro. Chas. Hicks of Midland Lodge, Greenville K. of P., who died in Shawnee, Okla., was buried Saturday, Dec. 26, at East Mount Cemetery by the Knights of Pythias, of which lodge he was a member in good standing...Christmas was well observed by nearly every church in the city, as they all had a tree. There were some valuable presents...Jake Pace was a member of the orchestra of the Mahara's Minstrels that played in our city Dec. 28 to S. R. O.

CLARKSVILLE, TENN.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

St. Johns Day was celebrated here on the 27th by the Masonic lodge No. 44 at St. John Baptist Church. The sermon was rendered by Rev. W. H. C. Stoakes and the sermon was declared the finest annual sermon ever rendered in this city. The Masonic banquet on the night of the 28th from the tickets sold was a tremendous success...Our city had an earthquake shock last Sunday between 2 and 3 p. m...There were many marriages among our young people this Christmas... Mrs. Danie Tendell died in Louisville on the 24th and was buried at Furgison, Ky., on the 26th. Mrs. Tendell was formerly of Clarksville...Miss Cora Cross and Dock Miller were married on the 24th...Prof. D. B. Rice is on the sick list again...The holidays passed off very quietly; no one was hurt and everybody had a good time.

HON. JAMES HILL

A Brief Resume of the Life and Character of One of the Race's Greatest Men.

Address by Bishop E. W. Lampton, D. D., at the unveiling of the manument of the late Hon. James Hill, ex-Secretary of State of Mississippi, and Past Grand Deputy Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Missisipi. Delivered December 3 at Jackson, Miss., under the auspices of the Most Worshipful Stringer Grand Lodge:

An isolated fact in history is difficult to comprehend. Surround and embellish it with the causes which led up to it; the effects which follow it and you charm the listener without an effort. The deduction is that epochs of history are more important and more impressive than events, and that mere dates are of no consequence without their historical setting. Take for the unit of history the epoch—begin there, master the underlying facts, the economical, the social, the political and the moral developments of a period of history, and to that the biography of its great men, and you become as familiar with that age as if you had lived in it—be it ancient, medieval or modern.

Some epochs stand out pre-eminently above all others in the history of a country. The Periclean age of Athens, celebrated as the age of perfect political liberty, was of only twenty-eight years duration, yet that age has commanded the astonishment as well as the admiration of the civilized world of such statesmen as Themistocles and Pericles; such philosophers as Socrates and Democritus; such historians as Heroditus and Thucydides, and a line of poets, painters and sculptors whose productions have been models in literature and art for ages.

Rome during her centuries of existence was full of the most stirring historical epochs, but in that epoch of forty-five years, extending from 59 B.C. to 14 B.C. she gave to the world Julius Caesar as a warrior and statesman, Cicero as an orator and lawyer, Virgil to sing the epic of Aenid, and Levy to tempt the muse of history.

England's political and religious fanaticism found its realization in the commonwealth. Oliver Cromwell in that stirring epoch of eleven years remodeled the army, filled the new army with men who were wild with religious enthusiasm, inflicted a terrible defeat to the Royalists at Naseby, saw King Charles dethroned and beheaded, had the commonwealth established with himself as dictator, conquered and subjugated Ireland and Scotland, disgraced and dismissed the long Parliament, and in the end gave to England a sound and stable government after striking down all forms of tyranny.

From the time that Napoleon Bonaparte drove the terrorists back at the Tulieries when he defended the convention, his initial bow on the platform of fame, to that fateful June day at Waterloo was a little more than nineteen years. Yet, who can recall an epoch in all the world's history so magnificent for its great transformation in the ideas of men and of governments, so appalling in magnitude of the awful slaughter of human life. This man in that short but stirring epoch accomplished such feats as the world had never before witnessed. He fought the combined armies of the world; he battled from Spain in the West to Syria in the East. His battlefield was the continent of Europe, while even Asia and Africa had felt the trend of his stalwart legions. Let us rapidly glance at some of his remarkable feats.

See him with his army, always victorious, now in Italy, now Austria, now back to Paris, now in far off Egypt at the foot of the Pyramids, exhorting his soldiers to bravery by telling them that forty centuries looked down upon them; back to Paris, this time to begin his marvelous career as a ruler. To attain this, with the aid of a body of grenadiers, he seizes the reins of government, drives the deputies from the chamber, overthrows the directory and immediately becomes first Vonsul of the French republic. Thus he puts an end to the French Revolution. See him now as he rises—this lowly Corsican peasant, this soldier of fortune was in 1799 made. First Consul—three years late, 1802, he was made Consul for life; two years more, proclaimed Emperor of the French, and in addition to this title he was, in the next year, crowned with the iron crown of the Lombards, as King of Italy. Thus, within six years, he rose from a position of comparative insignificance to be the most commanding figure in the world. He was, in short, the dictator of all Europe.

Napoleon Bonaparte was generous to all his relatives and friends. He made his brother, Louis, King of Holland; to his brother Joseph he gave the crown of Spain; the kingdom of Westphalia, to his brother Jerome, and to his sister he gave a small state in northern Italy. He gave to his brother-in-law Murat the kingdom of Naples, and to his friend, the King of Saxony, he gave the duchy of Warsaw.

Napoleon Bonaparte had little respect for kings and customs. Thus he made the King of Portugal leave his throne and flee for life. He forced the King of Spain to resign and the so-called Louis XVIII vacated the royal palace and fled at the very approach of Napoleon. He arrested the Pope, unceremoniously took him over the Alps to France and held him in captivity for four years. He changed the boundaries of countries, upset and created kingdoms and republics, made and unmade kings, revised the laws and instituted the great code that bears his own name; he constructed great internal improvements and in the epoch alotted to him, staggered and startled the world with his great military genius. Such an epoch leaves its indelible imprint upon the world which the innumerable series of years can not destroy—an epoch perrennial in its existence.

Grand master of ceremonies, the American republic, the proudest and most daring nation of the earth, had a very humble beginning. Its history is an epic more thrilling than Homer's Illiad or Virgil's Aenid. For deeds of valor—for epoch of notable bravery—America, the United States of America, yields first honor to no nation. Her history is cast in epochs of blood and treasure; epochs of sacrifice, whose noble deeds stand out peerless and incomparable. Take your Periclean age of Greece and I will give you an epoch in American history celebrated for the constitutional pronouncements of Daniel Webster, the matchless oratory of Henry Clay, and the fierce invective of John C. Calhoun.

Rome gave us her Caesar, her Cicero, her Virgil—but during the Revolutionary period, our own country gave to the universe George Washington as her soldier and statesman; Thomas Jefferson as a preacher of liberty, and John Marshall as a jurist of first rank and station.

England had her Cromwell, but the commonwealth was short lived and died with its creator. America points to Abraham Lincoln as apioneer of freedom—Lincoln who penned a proclamation that was afterwards incorporated into our organic law, abolishing human slavery from this land. The provisions of the law grow hourly in importance and its enforcement is more rigid today than ever, although its author has been dead for nearly half a century.

France points to Napoleon Bonaparte with just pride and with great admiration for his military genius. The world accords to him that honor, but liberty, the jewel of the universe, was lost sight of by that great general. America has, in the person of Grant, a general whose heart was ever attuned to the voice of liberty, whose deeds were ever performed in the cause of liberty and in the name of humanity.

The people of this State, my dear friends, love to honor those who perform great deeds for humanity, and with that spirit uppermost in their minds they have met here today to honor the memory of James Hill, a beloved and distinguished citizen of this State—an honored and highly respected member of this craft, and a man upon whom God Almighty had set the eternal seal of leadership.

To perpetuate his memory, I say, by raising on this spot this monument in stone, the feeble but most substantial tribute that the living can pay to the distinguished dead. This we unveil today as a token of love, esteem and undying affection of the citizens of the State of Mississippi to her most favored son.

He, too, came out of an epoch that for importance of the questions at issue and for the intensity of passion and animosity aroused on both sides, has no equal in American history. That epoch, sir, is better known as the Reconstruction, and the succeeding epoch.

Speaking to you now, thirty-one years after the passing of the Ames government, in this the beautiful capital of our great State, where so much of the turmoil and so much of the strife of those times were carried on, and where the great man for whom we erect this monument, spent his dearest action, I congratulate the people of this State for the wonderful transformation that has taken place in material development of our industries, but more for the reign of peace, quiet and general good feeling. I congratulate the people upon the fact that we have so progressed with the times that now we can rehearse the history of the echoing, the dying past without prejudice, but in a calm, dispassionate manner, with a frankness that seeks for absolute truth. In that spirit I invite you to a careful consideration of the public life of Honorable James Hill, Marshall county's son by birth, but, like Garrison, his country was the world; his countrymen, mankind.

When the constitution of Mississippi was adopted in 1869, James Hill was 25 years old. He was even then keenly alive to all the political movements and prepared himself for what his clear vision could see was surely coming. He saw that with the adoption of the constitution, colored men would possess the rights and privileges of American citizenship and honesty and efficiency were the fundamental elements of success. With diligence he set out to prepare for the future and impress others to prepare for the duties of citizenship. His youthful vision came true.

When the Legislature of Mississippi ratified the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, Congress, in turn, readmitted this State, and on February 23, 1870, when President Grant signed the bill, Mississippi swung back into her old place in the galaxy of States. In the campaign led up to the adoption of the constitution and the election of Governor Alcorn, young Hill displayed such marvellous keenness of perception and his mind so easily grasped the complicated political questions of the day, that he, in spite of his youth, won the admiration of the leaders of his party and rendered valuable services to the success of the ticket, by canvassing Marshall county and the entire northern part of the State.

At 28 years of age he was delegate to the national convention that nominated General Grant for President in 1872. He was a member of the committee on credentials and had the boldness to make a speech, presenting James D. Lynch to the convention. This was the first national convention in which colored men participated. This was the beginning of his political life.

Political honors came to him again and again. January 22, 1874, then 29 years old, he took charge of the office of Secretary of State, to which position he had been elected by the voters of Mississippi. He served in that capacity four years, making a clean record. He withstood the rigid inspection of the Democratic Legislature, which made Governor Ames resign in 1876, impeached Lieutenant Governor Davis and forced Cardoza, the superintendent of education, to give up his position. A paper called the *Times* had charged Secretary Hill with dereliction of duty. Speaking of the charge, the *Clarion*, a Democratic newspaper, said among other things: "We intend to do justice

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to Mr. James Hill, Secretary of State, if it takes all winter." Later the same article says, in giving the facts connected with the case, that Mr. Hill had appeared before the committee and produced evidence that the charge was unfounded, and therefore the committee was of the opinion that the appointment of a special committee to investigate it was unnecessary.

Garner, a Southern writer, in his "Reconstruction in Mississippi" says, speaking of the colored men on the Ames ticket: "Davis and Cardoza hung like millstones about his (Ames') neck, and by their dishonesty, incompetency and bad counsel which he too often accepted, did much to make the administration odious in the eyes of the whites. The colored Secretary of State was a competent officer and succeeded in escaping the impeachments of 1876." Thus we see that even his political foes were compelled to admire and honor him.

While serving as Secretary of State, he was nominated for CoCngress in the Fifth congressional district and made a valiant fight against General Hooker of the Democratic party. Hill was defeated in the campaign, although he polled over 10,000 votes.

That same year, 1876, was one of great political activity. The national convention was held and the national campaign fought. Oliver P. Morton, the great war Governor of Indiana, one of the leading Republican Senators, was Hill's choice for the Presidency. Morton had figured prominently in framing, advocating and securing the great legislative measures that gave the colored man political standing. Hill being ever grateful and responsive to the call of duty and the demands of common sense, fought for Morton on the floor of the convention, but was defeated by the anti-Morton forces. While Hill was disappointed by the action of the convention, he won the admiration of all the Republicans, among whom was John Sherman, later Senator Sherman. Hill and Sherman's friendship remained unbroken until Sherman answered the inevitable roll-call.

In 1878, while Hill had but a few remaining days to serve as Secretary of State, Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States, selected him for the position of internal revenue collector and he filled this office for nearly eight years, with credit to himself and honor to his country. He took peculiar pride in the testimonial of approval awarded him by President Hayes upon the business-like manner in which he conducted the office.

When Hill was 36 years old he was the virtual leader of the Republican party in his State. The convention of 1880 was at hand and Hill, by a series of brilliant political maneuvers, prevented a threatened bolt by the Grant men and captured the State convention for his friend, John Sherman, who was then Secretary of the Treasury and a prominent candidate for the Presidency. By his shrewdness he defeated the Grant forces, and at the convention held in Chicago in June, Mississippi's vote stood six for Sherman, six for Grant, five for Blaine. Although Garfield was nominated on the last ballot, Mississippi still stood six for Sherman. This eleemnt of steadfastness so clearly displayed here is only an index to the true character of the man, for he was known for his faithfulness toward his friends even to the extent of imperiling his own chances. He was an ardent believer and conscientious follower of that doctrine by which men are taught to be constant and true, to be upright and firm, to be noble and just.

He was not a politician in the sense the word is so commonly used today—he was not a politician for self-glorification, for whatever else can be said of him, he was certainly a most unselfish man, who thought it was his duty as well as his privilege to take active interest in the political questions. He was a close student of government. Nowhere was he more at home than on the platform, educating the masses on the political issues of the day. In conventions directing the party to successful policy and controlling and keeping within proper restraint the turbulent demands of the untutored, in committee room laying out plans for the success of his party.

When the Republican State convention met in 1884 the adherents of Blaine and the followers of Arthur were there in great numbers. Each side espoused the cause of their favorite son with vigor. Hill was an anti-Blaine man, and when the "Plumed Knight" of Maine came up as a candidate he spoke out. Although the Blaine enthusiasm was great, Hill succeeded in having the delegation to the national convention uninstructed. In that convention Hill led the forces which elected John R. Lynch temporary chairman of the convention, the highest honor ever accorded any colored man by a great national political convention.

The remaining political events in connection with the life of James Hill can be quickly told. He participated and by consent of his party dominated four more State conventions and was delegate to four more national conventions.

Still believing that John Sherman should be President, he made a strong effort to secure Mississippi's vote for Senator Sherman. This time he was more successful, for Mississippi was almost solid for him in the national convention. Hill was made national committeeman and remained for twelve years.

In 1888 Hill again ran for Congress. He had as his opponent Hon. Thomas C. Catchings, a most useful and influential member of the Mississippi delegation in Congress. The campaign was stubbornly contested. When Gen. Catchings was declared elected, Mr. Hill was not satisfied with the result and carried the contest to the National House of Representatives. The Fiftifirst Congress met on the 4th of March, 1889. The Republicans had a small majority to sustain President Harrison. James Hill went to Washington and pushed his contest. He thought the time had come when his ambition to serve his State in Congress was about to be realized. He labored night and day for the success of his cause. When the committee on contested elections did report, it favored Gen. Catchings. A minority report was submitted by Mr. Lacy of Iowa, declaring the seat yacant, to no avail, for Catchings was seated. Hardly had the news become known that Mr. Hill had lost his case, before another item of news was published, announcing that President Harrison had appointed James Hill postmaster at Vicksburg. Bitter were the denunciations heaped upon the lamented Hill by the press in general, yet he coolly and calmly went about his duties, and finally won the good will of those who so strongly opposed him. His official career as postmaster began in a storm, but ended in peace amid placid seas and clear skies.

The campaigns of 1892, 1896 and 1900 are still fresh in the memory of those present today. Serious factional differences rent the party in twain during those years—differences which we all regret. The fight for control in 1896 deserves this comment: The followers of James Hill responded like one man to his summon for battle. From the hill counties of the north to the seacoast counties of the south, from the timber ladened sections of the east to the fertile fields of the west. The admiration of the magnetic man answered to the call. The contest began here at home, but was carried to the national convention in St. Louis for final adjudication, and when it was ended James Hill was the undisputed leader of the Republican party in Mississippi. His magnanimous treatment of all —friend and foe—his unquestioned ability as a leader, were rapidly paving the way to a reunited party, for which his heart continually craved, and in which cause his efforts were constantly engaged.

His last convention was in 1900. Powerful influences from within and without were brought to bear to retire Mr. Hill from his position of party prominence. CoCalition after coalition were made to eliminate him, but Hill was not a self-imposed creature who foisted himself upon the people; he had gained his position of prominence not by favoritism; he had no relatives of prominence themselves, nor close to those who were prominent to push his cause, nor did he want any; he neither courted nor curried favor with outsiders who aspired to meddle with our State affairs—he came from the people of Mississippi; from them he had received the sacred trust of keeping their political rights, and to them he reported—to them he once more appealed for approval or disapproval of his political acts. Be it said to the credit of the people of the State, they answered his call with a firmness and decisiveness that was capable of but one interpretation: "Hill was still the choice of the Republicans of Mississippi, still their interprid leader," and they repudiated and condemned the attempts made to thwart their will.

Though the choice of the people at home, he was not the choice at this time of the powerful administration forces at Washington. The way the Republicans of his State gathered about him at that trying period is remarkable; indeed, the story of those days is fraught with interest. The Republicans of Mississippi made a record for their fidelity.

This great political leader, still high in the confidence of the people, was at this time shorn of his political influence at Washington, the seat of government. Empty-handed he went to the people, without a reward to promise, without a favor to bestow. To those who followed him he promised nothing, and they could hope for nothing—all they could hope for was the assurance that they as free Americans in this day had followed the example set by Virginia's noble patriot, Patrick Henry, when he refused to bow to England's golden calf, and cried, "Give me liberty or give me death." The result was that James Hill was for the seventh and last time sent as a delegate to the national convention, and for the second time in his life made chairman of the Republican State committee, a position he held until June 12, 1903, when his spirit took its flight, and his career on earth had ended.

But to close the biography of this great man without giving prominence to his services in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a member, and without speaking of his love and his services to our time-honored institution of Free and Accepted Masons, would be unfair to his just memory.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church might well paise to join in paying tribute to this ardent communicant of her faith, for his charitable, his churchmanlike conduct. His activity in church affairs has brought him the love and admiration of the Christian church.

You of Foley Chapel, A. M. E. Church, know how he, after his connection in 1903, gave his service to church work. You recall his services as steward, trustee and in other positions which he filled in spite of the demands of important political matters. An idea of how he labored in his church may be seen from the manner in which he used every effort to secure the expenses of the church, including the salary of the pastor, at other times than on Sunday, for he wanted the Sunday service to be of deep religious sentiment and attended with great solemnity.

In the higher demands of the church he was also active and valuable. At the twenty-first session of the General Conference, whence he went as a delegate from the Central Mississippi Conference, he served on various important committees, and as chairman on "Plan for Building New Churches" he fathered the plan of having an imposing church edifice at the capital of each State in the Union.

He could never have become a rich man, although at times he had a good income, holding lucrative positions—yet his purse was often diminished by his gifts to charity. He made no noise, but performed his deeds of charity in secret, not letting his left hand know what his right hand was doing. His Christianity was practical, and showed itself in his charitableness, in his love for home and in his love for his mother. When offered the position of United States minister to Liberia he refused because of his desire to be near his aged mother. The A. M. E. Church was proud of him and points with pride to his services and to his high Christian character.

The members of the Most Worshipful Stringer Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons have good reason to assist in the erection of this monument to his memory. As an exemplary Mason he believed in its teachings and gave a great part of his time toward promoting the best interests of the order. From 1886, the year he became a Mason, until the day of his death he was actively engaged in Masonic work. From 1895 to 1901 he was Senior Grand Warden. He became Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1903, and so remained until his death.

James Hill assisted as chairman of the committee on contested claims and was one of the prime movers in the erection of the monument to our lamented Past Grand Master Thomas W. Stringer. Indeed, he attained the topmost round in this exalted order, a prominent Royal Arch Mason, a Knight Templar and Grand Sovereign Inspector GeGneral of the Thirty-third Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Southern Jurisdiction.

Thus we find him ever active, ever engaged in the service of his church, of his order and of his State. Bacon, the great English philosopher, uttered a truth when he said: "Men in great places are thrice servants—servants of the sovereign or State, servants of fame and servants of business." How aptly does this apply to the great Hill!

What a life! How worthy was he of even greater honors than we can in our poverty of means and of expressions acknowledge! What a bright example to hold up to the youth of all generations for emulation!. Oh, men of Mississippi, yonder lies his dust.

Of him we might truly say:

"A combination and a form indeed,
Where every god did seem to set his seal
To give the world assurance of a man."

Truly we do honor ourselves by honoring him, for his memory will remain and his worth will be acknowledged when this marble shaft shall have crumbled into dust.

Why was he great? Why do we gather here today and erect this most fitting monument to his memory? Is it because he took a part as our representative in seven great national conventions? Is it because he served his country faithfully in positions of honor and trust? Do we honor him for the great services he rendered to his party? Have we gathered here because of the ardent devotion he displayed toward the craft? For all of these great accomplishments or any one of them he would be entitled to this monument; but, my friends and fellow craftsmen, we erect this monument to James Hill in the same spirit and for the same reason that our fellow countrymen all over this land have erected monuments to other heroic dead.

Not that we honor him, but that by this act we shall place ourselves on record as being at least grateful to our benefactors while living and not forgetful of them when dead, a custom long practiced by nations advanced in civilization.

The lessons that we learn from his life if practiced will promote peace and happiness to white and black alike and will insure that harmony that all well-meaning citizens of our State work for, and which we do in our hearts believe will surely come.

Looking at the life of James Hill from the standpoint of his labors to promote the best interests of the State—to secure blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity—we might hopefully expect impartial history, when making up the roll of the statesmen. Ah! the statesmen I say. We shall expect to see inscribed on the roll of honor of this grand old commonwealth in clear and shining letters the name of James Hill, the brightest of the Reconstructionists, the most successful promoter of harmony between the races during the Restoration, and in his greatness the most beloved in the confidence of the people.

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New Phone 1790

Race Gleanings

A new colored drug store was opened in Chicago November 1, with Messrs. Miller and Jenkins as proprietors.

* * *

It is stated that the Negro people have 30,000 teachers, 16,000 preachers, 1,700 physicians, 1,000 lawyers, and 400 journalists and literary men.

* * *

The State of Tennessee has granted a charter to the Pythian Bank and Trust Company of Shelby County. The capital stock is $25,000 and the headquarters will be in Memphis.

* * *

What is said to be the finest Negro office building in the United States is located in the heart of Philadelphia, and is owned by the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. It was built and furnished at a cost of $135,000.

* * *

Miss Eva Ross of Washington, D. C., has opened a drug store in that city; is thoroughly complete and up-to-date in every appointment. Miss Ross was formerly a kindergarten teacher, but gave up the work to enter this business.

* * *

Wichita, Kansas, has a large colored population, which is prosperous and well satisfied. Many are engaged in different kinds of business pursuits, while most of them own their own homes, which in many instances are quite beautiful.

* * *

Hard times is seemingly an unknown quantity to the average Negro farmer of Texas; for, according to the *Texas Freeman,* a large number of them came into Houston last week with many bales of cotton and large quantities of country produce, such as dressed hogs, sweet potatoes, butter, chickens, eggs, etc.

* * *

Allensworth, Cal., is a new Negro town already surveyed. It is now being populated and being built up by a Negro company in honor of whose president, Col. Allensworth, the town is named. The site of the new town is on the main line of the Santa Fe Railroad and seven miles west of the Southern Pacific at a point half way between Los Angeles and San Francisco, and is one of the most fertile parts of the San Joaquin Valley.

* * *

According to the Washington City *Bee,* the local Negro Business League is arranging for a banquet of the Negro business men, to take place sometime during the holiday season. It is the intention and hope that this banquet will be one of the largest and most representative of its kind that has ever taken place in the district. The main object in holding this and other banquets contemplated, is for the purpose of bringing the larger business men in closer touch with each other. Mr. W. Sidney Pittman, the architect, is president of the local Negro Business League.

MINEOLA, TEX.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Mrs. Nancy Chambers arrived from Dallas on the 22d with her son, who was shot in July....Charlie Brown was married to Miss Frances Davis, on the 22d of last month....The daughter of Louisa Brooks has a fine girl and is doing well....Dave Bradley has moved to Dr. Cochran's farm. It is on the Sabine bottom....A. Davis is with us again, after a long visit in the West....William Mallory was in town the 24th of last month. He is a native of Virginia....Andrew Session left for Greenville on the 24th....Prof. Denard and others were with us Christmas....The Christmas tree was very good and all enjoyed themselves....Richard Price passed through on the 25th, en route to Tyler, his home....Rev. R. B. Francis had services at the Baptist Church last week. ....When you want a first-class newspaper see Sandy Anderson.

DALLAS, TEX.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Let every colored man pay his poll tax, is the slogan of the law and order clubs of the city....Mrs. J. H. Harris, of Boley, Okla., visited her mother, Mrs. Molly Morris, on Cochran street, during the holidays. ....Mrs. Fannie Parks, of this city, spent the holidays in Marlin....Mrs. Volks, of Marshall, visited her daughter, Mrs. Jackson, on Cochran street, during the holidays, and was the recipient of many social courtesies....Cupid overdid himself in the way of unions during the holidays. The following hearts were made to beat as one: Chas. D. Best and Mrs. Hester Randolph, on Cochran street, Rev. M. E. Mayne officiating; Leon Helm and Adele Sinclair, on Wade street, Rev. G. I. Jackson officiating. They were the happy recipients of congratulations from their many friends and well wishers in this voyage of happy life and prosperity.... Mr. Ed Wilburn and Miss Mary Howard were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony at their new home, 331 Juliett street, in the presence of over 250 guests of both races, by Rev. Dr. A. S. Jackson, of New Hope Baptist Church, of which they are active members. The house was handsomely decorated appropriate to the occasion. Promptly at 8:40 the wedding march was announced by the soft touch of the pianist seated in the spacious east parlor, and the soft notes of music told the many guests that the bridal party had arrived. Mr. Ed Welch, in advance, with the license, bore them to the Rev. Dr. Jackson, who was stationed in the hall between the parlor and living room, followed by Miss Isa McArthur, dressed in a pink brocaded silk gown and pearl ornaments, and a bouquet of flowers suspended by a ribbon at her side, followed by the groom. The bride was dressed in a white imported, hand-embroidered silk gown and bridal veil. The ornaments were a diamond cluster at her throat. She carried a bouquet of bride's roses, and approached the altar on the arm of Capt. J. G. Griffin, where the ceremony was performed. They were the happy recipients of over $200 worth of useful articles, suitable for every department of their home. Members of the K. of P. Lodge and of the Pilgrim Sanctuary had charge of the refreshments. The orchestra rendered several splendid selections in the hall until the handsomely gowned women and well-dressed gentlemen began to depart for their homes at a late hour. Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn are at home to their many friends at 331 Juliett street. ....Mrs. Belle Nelson visited in Whiteright this week....Mrs. Oliver Mayes and sons spent the holidays in Muskogee, I. T., the guests of her mother-in-law, Mrs. F. P. Mayes....Gabe Denson is here from St. Louis, after an absence from the city for several years....Mrs. Maggie Tyler, of McKinney, was the honored guest to Christmas dinner, at the home of her son, George Jones, and wife, on Pacific avenue. ....Mr. Moses, of Hot Springs, Ark., and Mrs. Emma Joshua, of this city, were married at the residence of the bride's parents, on Cochran and Buford streets, Wednesday night,....See J. G. Griffin and give him your news and subscription for The Freeman, at 190 Main street, while in Dallas....Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Howard spent several days here in the city, attending their daughter's wedding....Mrs. Mollie Lyons visited at Muskogee, I. T., this week.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S LAST MESSAGE.

Mr. Roosevelt's message and the opening of Congress this week were the ruling features of political happenings. The message is considerably briefer than others sent to Congress from time to time. In it the President seemed to be studious in this; selecting and dealing at length with those questions which he deemed of the greater importance. The paper bears evidence of the best and deepest thought—Roosevelt thought, one will say when not en rapport with him. Discarding the thing of dislikes and likes the message is the fruit of meditation, care, preparation—the handiwork and the intellect of political economical scholarship.

The President's literary style has always been readable; filled with pungent expressions, yeasty paragraphs—that making the whole thing go has been the rule. The merits of his style is not wholly in 'efficacious," striking expressions; he gives evidence of desiring to be understood by all. What he has had to say has not been masqued by learned expressions. His vast popularity came to him in part owing to the fact that he stood as the great commoner in practice rather than in theory. In short, his messages were written for the American people; he submitted himself to the judgment of the people through them. The rest is known.

The message before the country is the last of a series, and in our judgment the very best. Those topics on which he wrote were treated in such a wise as to give the impression that they were to be monuments, and of course, according to the Roosevelt school of reasoning. There is something of a Washington's farewell message ring about s ome of his admonitions and conclusions. Regardless of his warm spirit, his warmth of utterance, one will search long before finding a political economical heretical assertion, if he finds one at all. Not only are his advice and conclusions sane conservative, but they, in their rich and ample treatment will become the unconscious part, if not the conscious part, of the political student's fund of information, and things of reference for the political economist. For instance, he says:

"To permit every lawles capitalist, every law-defying corporation, to take any action, no matter how iniquitous, in the effort to secure an improper profit and to build up privilege, would be ruinous to the republic and would mark the abandonment of the effort to secure in the industrial world the spirit of democratic fair-dealing. On the other hand, to attack these wrongs in that spirit of demagogy which can see wrong only when committed by the man of wealth, and is dumb and blind in the presence of wrong committed against men of property or by men of no property, is exactly as evil as corruptly to defend the wrong-doing of men of wealth. The war we wage must be waged against misconduct, against wrongdoing wherever it is found, and we must stand heartily for the rights of every decent man, whether he be a man of great wealth or a man who earns his livelihood as a wageworker or a tiller of the soil."

A business principle is uttered, and which concerns the latter-day combines, concerning which there has been but little precedence. Here was the occasion for the greater onslaught of the President; not because he introduced innovations, but because he stood for the theory and law rather than the common practice. Yet with all that, he insists that capital combinations were not to be attacked by demagogy, simply because men have wealth or do from wealthy combinations. That the President s hould air the common practice is what caused the stir. Gold is timid—also according to the erstwhile Bryan logis—a coward. It will not stand for a menace. The principle, however, if safe, does not deal out fear to those that want to do the proper thing.

He again calls attention to the notion of government regulation of railways by the Interstate Commerce Commission. This is not a new idea in American politics. The President has given the situation emphasis, more clearly defined the work of the Commission. In other words, he has given the Commission something to do, and along the lines for which it was created. It is notable that the Commission has picked up considerable courage during the present administration. Speaking to the point the President says:

"I believe that the more far-sighted corporations are themselves coming to recognize the unwisdom of the violent hostility they have displayed during the last few years to regulation and control by the national government of combinations engaged in interstate business. The truth is that we who believe in this movement of asserting and exercising a genuine control, in the public interest, over these great corporations have to contend against two sets of enemies, who, though nominally opposed to one another, are really allies in preventing a proper solution of the problem.

There are, first, the big corporation men, and the extreme individualists among business men, who genuinely believe in utterly unregulated business—that is, in the reign of plutocracy; and, second, the men who, being blind to the economic movements of the day, believe in a movement of repression rather than or regulation of corporations, and who denounce both the power of the railroads and the exercise of the Federal power which alone can really control the railroads."

This condition is coming about and generally as they concern public utilities, the stage of supervision has come if not that dream state condition of public ownership. The idea of public ownership is not a dream in European countries. Our Mr. Bryan came back from Europe inoculated with the theory of government ownership, but America was not preapred for such an unusual departure. Perhaps it will never be. The notions on this side in most cases as they concern most things are totally different and according to the makeup of the people and institutions, will remain so, at least for a great many years. But sueprvision is in the air and doubtless will obtain as with national banks. The President has always declared along this line and is sustained by precedent and sentiment.

Here follows a vital Roosevelt doctrine in reference to the danger to democracy:

"We no more believe in that empiricism which demands absolutely unrestrained individualism than we do in that empiricism which clamors for a deadening socialism which would destroy all individual initiative and would ruin the country with a completeness that not even an unrestrained individualism itself could achieve. The danger to American democracy lies not in the least in the concentration of administrative power in responsible and accountable hands. It lies in having the power insufficiently concentrated, so that no one can be held responsible to the people for its use. Concentrated power is palpable, visible, responsible, easily reached, quickly held to account.

Power scattered through many administrators, many legislators, many men who work behind and through legislators and administrators, is impalpable, is unseen, is responsible, can not be reached, can not be held to account. Democracy is in peril wherever the administration of political power is scattered among a variety of men who work in secret, whose very names are unknown to the common people. It is not in peril from any man who derives authority from the people, who exercises it in sight of the people, and who is from time to time compelled to give an account of its exercise to the people."

Doubtless the President was standing up for his administration and also for himself. He is not stranger to the fact that he was accused of too much "concentration," too much power in the White House, tending as the opposing views had it, toward imperialism, monarchy and the rest of it. It is generally thought by his partisans and foes that his strenuosity added to his personal views, were cause for some uneasiness. The President makes it plain that individualism rightly directed is desirable and in the interest of the promotion of the political state and human society. He relies on the people as indices of this condition, seemingly feeling justified that he, his administration, were endorsed at the polls without coercion—just in the ordinary way.

Mr. Roosevelt makes no special reference to the Negroes. Many Negroes hope for such recognition, but when it is done it is special. The past references were made out of sympathy for the civil condition, yet in the meanwhile they were a contributions to the very thing prayed against. The President is aware of the conditions; he is also aware that whatever he might say might as well be unsaid so far as the effect is concerned. We, the Negroes, however, feel pleased over such mention; think it something of respect. Really, it helps to make permanent a condition—through the law of custom—the recognition of race distinction in high places.

The message stands for tax on inherited fortunes, thus more equally sharing the burdens of taxation with the poor man. This mode of taxation is not new; it has passed the experimental stage in European countries. Beyond the easy mode of filling the treasury, there is a sort of justice that men feel to be. The President had a good word to say for the wage worker, paying especial attention to the "disabling" phase in the pursuits of industry.

The message has largely to do with the judges, commending the judiciary of the country as a whole, yet offering a word of advice as to further effectiveness.

The President called attention to most of the other features of general government, through it all showing solicitous care and regard for every interest. The message is distinctly a Roosevelt production, told in the peculiar, yet taking Roosevelt style—most happy in expression and thoroughly understandable. It will be classed among the great papers in the years to come because it so pre-eminently reflects the present age. It is rich in suggestion, showing mastery of detail—the head of every department, and rightly so, since history will look to Roosevelt—it will know only Roosevelt of the Roosevelt administration.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Mr. Taft is manifesting concern about the Panama Canal project. He said that his administration would be held responsible for the result of the undertaking if it failed, cnsequently will give the matter his best attention before he takes up the reins of government. The work is vast, so vast that those who have not visited the scene can have but a faint idea of what is in hand. And it is that very thing—the unthinkable greatness that causes the feeling of uneasiness as to the final outcome.

Expert engineers, men who have done some of the profound things of the day, are none too sanguine about the feasibility of the scheme. Their doubts, however, will not deter those having the work immediately in hand. Some allowance will be made for the differences of opinions in view of the fact that the work when successfully accomplished will be the greatest feat of civil engineering known to the world, brining lasting glory to those that marked the path and carved out the rocks, staid the floods and the rest of it. No one knows this better than the onlooking engineers and who are not "building" the canal. We, naturally, are impressed for the moment by their opinions, yet the project will not be arrested on that account. Those in charge have faith in what they are doing. If not, they should have. Or, as it has been stated, if they have lost faith in the plan and at the same time see where there can be improvement, it would be wise to throw down and follow the plan that now appears the better one.

We do not know how a sea level canal appeals to those otherwise than engineers, but the ordinary thoughtful individual, we think, prefers to think of a canal on this principle. And really the majority of the consulting engineers, it is said, were of that opinion. Experience, eprhaps, was in favor of the locks of which the disquieting rumors are heard. It will not be thought, however, that these men do not know what they are doing or that they did not count the cost in money and ingeuuity. To them the problem, more than likely, appeared equally difficult. Time will tell as to their judgment.

Mr. Taft and the well-wishers of the canal do not want it to fail; they do not want the probability of its success questioned. No undertaking of such magnitude should cause the least doubt as to its success. When De Lesseks undertook the work his success was not for a moment doubted. He came to Paris flushed with the success of the Suez. Money poured forth from all sources; every one, the rich, the poor say the new world in twain as they had just seen Asia and Africa severed. The story is told of wasted millions in tryiing to do what we Americans are now doing. Much of the doubt entertained today is due to the failure of the brilliant De Lesseps. A few decades since only, but within in that time, men have come up by leaps and bounds. The Alps have been pierced, rivers have been tunneled beneath their beds, bridges that were erstwhile visionary have become realization, not to speak of those towering skyscrapers that suggest the Tower of Babel. These and a thousand other things mark the advance of man. Logically, he has a greater "right" to undertake colossal enterprises than the men of De Lessep's day, and with greater assurance of success.

Then, too, the little spasm of uneasiness wasa helped some by the agitation about what went with the money. The accusation of a great steal coming from high sources contributed to the disquiet concerning the outcome of the undertaking. The effect was natural enough—the inference being that men were more interested in the swag than in the canal, consequently the canal had not received the best attention.

Happily for the canal and all concerned the accusation has not stuck. It is to be hoped that the charge of inefficiency of the work will be found as groundless, and that the work will progress until the gigantic enterprise standsa world feature, as those in charge have thought it out. The solicitude of the President-elect is assuring as to the manner of man he is. Notonly his administration to be, is interested; he, as a good American citizen, does not want to see millions wasted on what would be characterized as t stupendous piece of folly in the event of failure, or the good name of the country jeoparded by what would be the modern Quixotism.

"STRIKING UP A BARGAIN."

It is said that the Democratic party of Louisville has agreed to put Negroes on the poice force and in the fire department in large numbers in exchange for Negro votes next November, and it is also said that the Democratic party will give many other offices to the colored brother for his vote.

The colored brother will do a wise thing in striking a "bargain with the Democrats. Perhaps he should not agree to the proposals merely for the sake of the jobs in view. Under the circumstances, and which are about the same for colored men everywhere, the proposals stand for very much more than the delivery of so many jobs. Viewing the report as true, the Democrats have concluded to do what the Republicans have not had the courage to do when in power. Obviously enough the Democrats would be the gainer in that the greater positions would go to the white men of the party. But this is not different to what is known with Republicans, and under more favorable circumstances. The proopsal is decidedly in favor of the Negroes and promises more than the fishes and loaves.

As we view it, coming from the Democratic side, the Republicans will also make a bid, and between the two the Negroes of that city will find themselves of the fire department, of the police department and in various capacities as is known in other cites where the Negro and white populations are in similar proportons. Aside from the financial phase, the broader spirit is to be noted; more sympathy for a class of citizens which is so often outlawed by the practices of communities, and by those in municipal control, as well as by the citizens who really have no reason to be above the law—those who make the laws, or those who serve the laws.

Recent decisions, laws, practices in some parts have not been very assuring to the Negroes' civil standing. Sentiment, the unwritten laws, have prevailed. It has undone the Negroes in instances; and as it prevails and operates in oppositon, just so will the things opposed suffer. The admission of colored men to the common benefits of their citizenship will tend to modify intense opposing sentiment, or perhaps change it altogether, thus enabing Negroes to enjoy what is commonly allotted.

The question today with the Negro is how to increase his citzenship. If it can be done by joining with other parties it is the thing to do. It is clearly up to the race to care for itself. The jobs desired as they are do not measure up to the general good will of men. To be sought by either party shows appreciation, enhancing the value of citzenship, the proof of the improved valuation is by just such means as proposed by the Louisville Democrats, carrying with it the idea of being voted for as well as voting.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWELVE.

Any one may obtain a copy of these publications now in print by writing to the Secretary of the Committee of Twelve, Hugh M. Browne, Cheyney, Pa., and enclosing for each publication desired a two-cent paper wrapper addressed to himself.

*To the Colored Men of Voting Age in Alabama.
Can the South Solve the Negro Problem? Carl Schurz.
Why Disfrancisement is Bad. Archibald H. Grimke.
*Voting Instructions to Maryland Voters.
*What a Colored Man Should Do to Vote.
Garrison Centenary Leaflet.
Slavery and the Race Problem in the South. Hon. Wm. H. Fleming.
The Atlanta Riot. Ray Stannard Baker.
The Negro in America. Andrew Carnegie.

Articles now in press:
Address Before the North Carolina Society in New York. William H. Taft.
Work of the Colored Law and Order League of Baltimore, Md. James H. N. Waring.
Study of the Negro's Progress in Jackson, Miss.

In Preparation:
Negro Self-Help in Education. R. R. Wright, Jr.
Negro Self-Help in Home Getting. Kelly Miller.
The Convict Lease System. George W. Forbes.
Negro Self-Help in Hospital Work. George C. Hall, M. D.

Pargraphs:
East Bessemer, Ala.
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GEORGE L. KNOX,
Publisher and Managing Editor.
ELWOOD C. KNOX,
Business Manager.

SATURDAY, JAN. 2, 1909.

The food preserving people will be permitted to put in a tiny bit of benzoate of soda—not enough to hurt.

President Roosevelt has ordered Negro bandmasters for the Negro regiments when qualified. That's not so bad.

The minimum of restriction and the maximum of welcome is the "dope" for the new White Australia. "Colored" races may merely visit.

The keys of the beautiful Hoosier capital are in the hands of Dr. Booker T. Washington today. The famous "Tuskegee Wizard" is the people's guest.

The report that Booker T. Washington secured the appointment of Crum is being denied. Mr. Washington could not afford the distinction as great as it may appear.

Since everybody has volunteered to help President-elect Taft construct his Cabinet, permit us to offer the suggestion that in Mr. William Loeb, Jr., the efficient secretary to President Roosevelt, he will find some mighty well-seasoned Cabinet timber.

Private Secretary Emmett J. Scott, with his usual good sense, is not content to bask in the reflected glory of his distinguished chieftain, Dr. Booker T. Washington. He has gone out and got a goodly allowance of the "limelight" on his own hook.

Mr. Carnegie gives it out that profit shaving concerns are things of the future. He pointed to instances of success in the past and which concerns are yet in satisfactory operation. He gives out his views in interest of the laborer and in the interest of harmony between capital and labor. When capital and labor are one, the situation is ideal, he insists.

Special attention is called to our Washington letter, which leads our first page week after week. In this issue of The Freeman, Mr. R. W. Thompson, our very capable andd observant staff correspondent, in noting the unique career of Recorder John C. Dancy, contributes the first of a series of pen-pictures of men prominent in the public eye at the nation's capital.

Abraham Lincoln, martyred President, deliverer of men, when shall we see his likes again? His fame has filled all the land—all the lands. His influence has run the world around, bidding desponding man look up as summer rain bids drooping corn revive. He loved hsi country dearly—that he gave up his life. No man hath greater love than this. Then with Guonod—"We'uns love him, too."

A bunch of 104 Chinese students was presented to President Roosevelt last Monday. He was delighted to see them; told them that he hoped they would continue to come.

He spoke of the friendly relations existing between the two countries and told them they could help to make the ties still more binding. The students all expressed their pleasure at their hearty reception.

There has very recently been formed in the Island of Porto Rico a Porto Rico-Tuskegee alumni fraternity. This organization is composed of Porto Rican graduates of Tuskegee Institue, Mr. Eugenio LeCompte, '03, being the first president. The idea of the fraternity is to spread the "Tuskegee idea" throughout the island. We are very glad to hear of this activity among the Porto Rican graduates.—Student.

Let every Negro resolve to take one or more Negro publications and pay for them. The thing of "respectable employment is talked about when much of the support going to Negro publications is from white people. The colored people want to get more earnest in such things. Putting method where it counts most. A newspaper is of trifling cost, yet when put this cost takes care of the business. Let The Freeman be among your publications.

The Jews today celebrate the feast of the Passover, an event which marked their deliverance from the Egyptian Bondage, which was before Christ, and there has not been or will there ever be any restraint to stop the celebration of this sacred day.—The Colorado Times.

The above is set forth is a reminder that we are not to forget Abraham Lincoln within the short period of forty-five years.

The effort to have colored men as bandmasters in the four Negro regiments of the United States Army seems to have borne fruit. An order to that effect was issued some time ago by the President, and is being complied with. Two of the regiments in consequence have colored men as head musicians, and it is only a question of time when the others also have them. Mr. Roosevelt acted promptly in th ematter, on the application of Emmett J. Scott of Tuskegee. He expressed himself as desirous of having colored men fill the positions when qualified.

For some unexplained reason, Lawyer Walter M. Farmer, who held some kind of a clerkship during the recent campaign in the office of the Speakers' Bureau of the Republican headquarters in Chicago, has not satisfied the public as to his connection with the Oberlin meeting of the Niagara Movement, at which the Republican administration was denounced and Bryan was endorsed. Did Lawyer Farmer vote for the adoption of such a resolution—or did he not?

The spirit of the times is undoubtedly in favor of a qualified suffrage. Wherevr the voting privilege is now granted, it is almost invariably coupled with some condition aiming to give advantage to the intelligent and thrifty. If the suffrage question could be so nicely adjusted in the Southland that restrictions would weigh equally heavy upon both races, might it not be perfectly safe to assert that constitutions honestly revised "place a premium upon thrift, industry and the ownership of property"?

We think the suggestion that Dr. Booker T. Washington has named as chief marshal of the colored division of the inaugural pageant a highly fitting one. Who would be more acceptable to the Negro masses of the country? Who is closer to President-elect Taft? What other part could he play in the great national function at the capital on that day? Since the affair is non-partisan, non-pollitical—the tribute of a united Republic to its chosen Chief Executive—why should it not be proper for Dr. Washington to head the Negro colonels on the 4th of March?

Ernest Hogan thinks that the church does not care very much for the stage. Somehow or another the church and the stage became estranged years ago. Perhaps they were never together from the beginning. But is not believed that the hostility of the past exists today. True enough, actors are not found in Amen corners. They are appreciated at church services. The church and stage were popularly supposed to stand for the extremes of life, when, in fact, the stage is quite as uplifting worldly. This has in mind the better class of plays and which are written as books—in order to tell the world.

We would like to see ten thousand Negro farmers take the Negro Farm Review. It is cheap enough and good enough.—The Baptis Vanguard.

The Negro Farm Review is a new one on us. It goes without saying that in this progressive age a well edited farm journal is essential to the farmer who wishes to be in touch with the times. A publication by Negroes will answer the purpose quite as well, provided the managers are wide awake, securing the best information, competing in some sense with publications by white men. Such a journal needs support, since it will genuinely answer its call. We hope it abundant success.

As The Freeman understands it, there are now two vacancies in the office of bandmaster in the Negro regiments—one in the 9th Cavalry, by retirement of Gung'l, and the other in the 24th Infantry, by transfer of Thompson. The 25th has a colored leader in the person of Albert Williams, and the white leader of the 10th Cavalry—one Tyrrell—was permitted to re-enlist not long ago by special arrangement, on the ground that there was "no colored musician available." The competent colored musicians of the country should not let these places get by them by failing to bring their merits to the attention of the War Department. The two positions now open—with a third in prospect—are worth going after.

Most of us are prepared to make our usual vows at the beginning of the New Year. Some will be kept the year around by the grimly determined. Others will soon become lax—the pledges will go to where all the pledges have gone. It is said that h—l is paved with broken resolutions. Figuratively, it must be so, if broken resolutions lead to crime and criminals. Man is finite—weak. Great big men and women are children in the thing of pledge-making.

The drunkard swears off, and, seemingly for what? To get a keener appetite. It is pity to see great, strong men in the coils—of anything that means degradation and misery for them. Yet yearly we have the spiritual confessional where men throw down their sins. If they would only allow them to stay there the total world would be sweeter and saner. The children of men would feel the benenficent influence, being blessed in the essential things of earth, health and plenty—with more insuring prospects of the future when done with this life.

Colored men fail to make much headway in business because the business is not sufficiently capitalized. Time and time again joint organizations, stock companies have been suggested where many men of small means could unite their money, making it sufficient in amount to carry on business. The idea in most instances has been met with cold reception. Efforts have been made, however, along the line. Generally they were incapably managed, consequently failing. At this late day more should know about business. There ought to be competent men in every community, both capable and honest, and into whose hands the enterprises should be intrusted. Heretofore the thought has been that there would be nothing to divide in the event many were concerned. The thought did not seem to occur that numbers meant more working capital, hence increasing the volume of business, and as to some kinds of concerns means more consumers assured consumers. Further more, employment of the kind expected could be had for many. Opportunity still exists for united efforts along numerous branches of industrialism.

Information has it that motion for a new trial in the case of Abraham Raymer, alleged leader of the race riot mobs on the nights of August 14 and 15, recently was overruled in the Sangamon Circuit Court, and Raymer was sentenced to thirty days in jail and to pay a fine of $25 and costs on conviction of petit larceny. Raymer's attorneys will not appeal to the Supreme Court, it is said.

What relation the charge of petit larceny has with that of "alleged leader of the race riot mobs" is unknown to us. It, however, stands to reason by the association in the above paragraph that the charge grew out of the circumstances. If so, it appears that this punishment is the first. The indirection proves how difficult it is to convict members of the mob. And really, one or two or three should not be held blameable. One or two or thre do not constitute a mob. It is common to insist that examples should be made of men. In some instances, yes. But a multitude aflamed will not be traceable to one man. It would be better that all escape than make a scape goat of a single individual. Te many should not be permitted to hide behind a single individual. If they are bold enough to commit deeds in the open they should be courageous enough to take their medicine. Members of the Springfield mob are known by the hundreds. As they less guilty?

EFFECTIVE AND FAR-REACHING WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWELVE.

Growing out of the meeting held in Carnegie Hall, a number of years ago, a Committee of Twelve authorized by that body has been at work ever since the Carnegie Hall meeting. It is constantly doing something to better the condition of the Negro race. The Committee of Twelve is now engaged in the distribution of one hundred thousand copies of Secretary Taft's recent speech at the North Carolina Society dinner, New York City. It also has in press a publication showing the progress of the Negro in Jackson, Miss., which will be widely distributed very soon.

Those who wish these important publications can address Mr. Hugh M. Brown, Cheyney, Pa., and they will be sent with no cost, except that stamps are asked to defray postage.

CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF CRUM.

That Booker T. Washington has many strong friends in the South is evident from the following, recently appearing in the News and Courier:

Richard Carroll, of Columbia, told the News and Courier correspondent that Booker T. Washington had nothing to do either with Crum's appointment or his reappointment as the Collector of the Port of Charleston—that statements charging him with influencing President Roosevelt in the matter were erroneous, and that another colored man of prominence and standing was responsible for the appointment.

Carroll believes that because of certain publications in which Washington is charged with Crum's appointment, the former may get a cold reception when he goes to Charleston to lecture next month. He does not wish to give the name of the man who is responsible for the appointment, but would probably do so to protect Washington.

It is very plain that Mr. Carroll does not want Mr. Washington to reap injury owing to the appointment, and most especially since he had no part in it. Any other Negro securing the appointment would have cause to feel proud. The advertisement of the fact would help him. It is quite different with Mr. Washington, who is dependent on the general public for the favors he receives. The appointment of Crum was most bitterly opposed at Charleston, in South Carolina. In fact, the whole section became more or less interested, and in spite of the years that have passed it refuses to get used to it. Mr. Carroll and other friends of Mr. Washington's are very htoughtful when they seek to preserve him from the wrath of the South which would be exhibited toward him if it were generally thought that he was securing the appointment of men who are distasteful to it.

MR. SCOTT'S WORK FOR NEGRO BANDMASTERS.

Mr. Emmett J. Scott is entitled to a unanimous vote of thanks from the race for his strong, intelligent, persistent and successful efforts in behalf of the skilled Negro musicians of the land. He took the initiative in laying before the War Department the unanswerable argument that the four Eegro regimental bands in the United States Army should be led by chief musicians of their own race, and brought Secretary Taft to his way of thinking. When the officials lower down began to find excuses for not elevating colored musicians to the posts planned for them by the head of the War Department, Mr. Scott, undismayed, carried his plaint to a higher source, and put a "crimp" in the red-tapishness of the subordinate obstructionists by securing, through Secretary Loeb, a peremptory order from the President himself, directing that colored chief musicians be provided for the Negro regiments as rapidly as vacancies should occur, and to hasten the effect of his order, he clinched the matter by adding that the present white bandmasters leading Negro regiments be transferred to white regiments as soon as openings could be made for them.

The correspondence between Mr. Scott and Secretary Loeb, which has been given to the public, shows that this splendid result did not come easily, notwithstanding the plainly evident sympathy of the White House and the Secretary of War. The contention of Mr. Scott was couched in diplomatic terms, but his firm language and indefatigable watchfulness of every turn in the tide, indicated that he was "out for blood," and that nothing short of a clean-cut victory would satisfy him. The original order of Secretary Taft to place Negro musicians at the head of the Negro regiments as rapidly as places became available was issued January 26, 1907, but it was June 17, 1908, before a single place could be made "available." White musicians in Negro regiments wanted to hold their jobs, and were re-enlisted, largely on the plea that "competent Negro bandmasters could not be procured." The War Department officials took the ground also that a "vacancy" was not legally created by the expiration of the white chief musician's term of enlistment, but only when such officer failed to re-enlist or was retired by the Department. At this rate, Mr. Scott perceived that with "vacancies" as rare as hen's teeth and the excuse of "no colored available" when the white man wanted to re-enlist a colored chief musician would come just about in time to see the millenium.

The aggressive young Tuskegeean "got busy" with the White House. After managing to squeeze in Elbert Williams as bandmaster of the 25th Infantry in June, Mr. Scott took notice that two white musicians were permitted to re-enlist as bandmasters of Negro regiments, and the attention of Secretary Loeb was promptly called to the apparent evasion of the spirit, if not the letter of the ruling of the War Department. The upshot of the whole proceeding was the issuance on November 18 of the President's explicit order that existing white bandmasters in charge of Negro regiments be transferred to vacancies in white regiments and their places be supplied by Negro chief musicians at the earliest possible moment.

This order is too plain to be misunderstood and it offers no technicality behind which anyone can hide to keep Negro musicians from their own, except, perhaps, the claim that the colored men who apply are not competent; but we won't hunt trouble until trouble hunts us, in this regard. We shall await developments with both eyes open.

Mr. Scott's brave and manly fight has opened a new and fruitful field of endeavor to the progressive Afro-American, and he cannot be praised too highly for unselfishly pausing amid his many strenuous duties, to "put an anchor to windward," as it were, for the encouragement of the talented young men of his race, whose opportunities have been all too limited in the past. In affording us this inspiring outlook for the new year, President Roosevelt, Secretary Loeb, Judge Taft and Mr. Scott all come in for a liberal shrae of the Negro people's gratitude.

CELEBRATING IN MEMORY OF LINCOLN.

September or January will do, just so we remember the immortal emancipation. In the years gone by there was a tendency to get away from the fact of slavery. Abraham Lincoln, the civil war and the rest of it were "neglected to the limbo of forgotten things." The thoughtful had begun to fear for his memory, feeling that in the rush to get on and with the disposition to put the past behind in order to get on, that a "sacrilege" might be committed through willful neglect. In more recent years a decided change has been noted. And we are sorry to admit that the change has not been so much of the natural promptings of the heart as it has been due to a pressure from without, and which is becoming more and more noticeable. This will be construed as a reflection or a rstriction on the race; it is all of that—reflection or restriction, and fully justified by what has been, or has not been. The idea is to do what we can in forcing more respect for past beneficial agencies.

To pursue the case a trifle further; there have been those who had it that Lincoln was not such a friend of the Negroes after all, and that he did what he did because he had to. The question will not be argued here; suffice to say that he was a benefactor, whether of chance or design. A homely saying is, that we shoul dnot look a gift horse in the mouth. Perhaps Mr. Lincoln's administration did not set out with the direct intent of freeing the Negroes. But, like every other happening in every other administration previous or subsequent, it was responsible for what happened. Had it been a calamity, a panic or anything else it would have been chargeable. Those unmuzzled individuals and short-sighted, to boot, "had ought to" muzzle up and put on glasses.

We can not add to the glory of Lincoln, likewise his detractors can not do injury. As Bulwer Lytton would say, he carved out an empire for himself which the praises of men can not widen nor can their condemnation make less. His services to the Negro are ncalculable, his services to the country are incalculable, his services to humanity are incalculable. If we are wise we will not stop to analyze the whereases and the wherefores, but chime in the mighty chorus of him who stands with the few liberators of all times. Mr. Lincoln did not come to the presidency with any set program; he and his party were for the obstruction of slavery. They came knowng that its death knell was to be sounded, but did not suspect it nearly so soon. The skeptical should be convinced and know that it is party policies that count—its platform of principles—and that when these are asserted it is the duty of the opposition to get busy. It was demonstrated.

Then take the life of Lincoln long before he was called from the wilds of Illinois. He was found battling on humanity's side. He chose to support that party which had small voice in governmental affairs, but big with potentialities, and because in the cause of right. All the time, at any time, in Congress, out of Congress, Mr. Lincoln stood for a free soil. In truth, he was more interested in free soil than the Negroes. Incidentally he believed them human, had compassion for them out of his great nature, but he was not enamored of them. He at no time was associated with the liberation movements, excepting as his party declared. His vote in Congress was on the Negro's side, assuring that when forced to choose he was consistent.

As the years go by, leaving in accentuation their generations of mankind, it is becoming more and more evident that Mr. Lincoln was one of the evenest tempered, mildest mannered men that ever graced a "ruler's" chair. He only, it appears, was fitted for the work that fell to him, for the ordeal he underwent in accomplishing it. Ever on the defensive, his oppsers froced him to be aggressive. He came to the presidency as an Isaiah might have, might have prophesied as sheep to the shamble—"opening not his mouth." Once when in the bitterness of despair he was known to have asked of himself: Abraham Lincoln are you a dog? He also would have had the cup pass from him. But if destiny has any part in human affairs, Abraham Lincoln was its child. It may not be generally known that he insisted from his youth up that he would be President some day. It seems strange. Yet when we think that most ambitious youth declare at least to themselves the same, it is not so strange after all, excepting the fact that it was Abraham Lincoln, so modest, so retiring, so devoid of the ego who said it. He had but few declarations to give out concerning himself, then to think that he announced that he would be President some day—there are things and ways past finding out.

Lincoln spent his time in preparation; he depended largely on himself for information—his schooling; he was his own teacher and had no fool for a scholar. He was a Saul in all respects, towering with men of the schools above men by his rare good sense and splendid udgjment. Speaking of the village preacher in his "Deserted Village," Goldsmith has it, that those who came to scoff remained to pray. Thus when our Lncoln came, taunts and gibes followed him. The press, whether friend or foe, bubbled forth in merriment at the lean, lank, gawky son of the wilderness that had come to "court." But that same destiny, or whatever influence, or his godlike mein and disposition soon put to rout the gainsayers and scoffers. It became apparent that a worthy successor of Washington, Adams, Jefferson was at the front of American affairs. His wisdom, wit, philosophy were ready, first handed, from a master mind. The "rude, uncouth, ungainly" was rich in the requirements of his office. He saw men as from an eminence, a distinction soon learned. Every day added unto him; his country plunged in war, he was yet the idol, and when the ballots of the second election were counted he again was the Abon Ben Adhem—his name leading all the rest.

He fell at his post as it were; most dartardly deed, but a glorious finale of the work he was "sent" to do. One can not help recall the death of the One greater who was spared until His mission was ended. The parallelism of the foremost two is indeed striking. Without the beautiful story of the cross we would not see nearly so much in Jesus Christ. That he fell in the cause is the evidence that counts. It appeals to men—He gave his life. The Negro race can feel proud that the memory of Abraham Lincoln is entwined about their establishment. The total world lauds him, placing him second to none of the sons of men saving One—he who wore the impress of divinity. So much civil life and liberty never sprang up before at the behest of one man. The influence of the act ran the world around—bidding despondent man lift up as water the drooping plants. The world lamented his passing; it loved him for his virtue. His physical defects, whatever they may have been, were at last beautiful neath the halo of civil consecration. His death the last stanza of the poem of his life was the most awful and beautiful climax.

THE CHURCH AND THE STAGE.

Ernest Hogan, the well-known colored comedian, sets out some good thoughts in a recent article in his brief discussion of the church and the stage. He can't quite understand just why the preacher has a warm reception for every other class of people excepting stage people. Mr. Hogan says:

"The church goes after the drunkard, the gambler and so on, but for some reason it has a tendency to shun the prominent Negro of the stage, who has opened a field and is doing much to lessen race prejudice and who gives to hundreds employment. There are many places in the United States today where the preacher will get up and admonish the members for attending a theatrical peroformance which has in every respect been clean and instructive."

The theater is better than it was, perhaps, wen it got its indifferent reputation. Mr. Hogan states it about right, the preachers, at least, of our congregation do not take on over the show people. The preacher of today, however, is not so hide-bound as those just before him. When he wars on the stage he does so because his predecessors did so, and because it is a sort of church prerogative to do so, brought about through custom. Many of the new men, we dare say, would be extremely glad to doff the yoke of custom and take on more latitude. Some of them wouldn't mind seeing a nice, clean show such as Mr. Hogan has generally presented. Some wouldn't mind seeing the graces of that bronzed fairy, Aida Overton Walker. Art in its best sense, according to those who know, is akin to religion.

At the dedication of the A. M. E. Church some years ago, in the days of the Rev. Clay, it was agreed by the trustees that the upper portion of the church should be used only for religious purposes—consecrated, as it were. About this time some young women and men, mostly of the church, were preparing for an entertainment, thinking that it would be permitted in the upstairs auditorium as usual. The Rev. Clay had just paid the old debt of the church, and in his exuberance of zeal and prayerful thankfulness at the "feat" was foremost in insisting against the invasion. There was nothing wrong in preserving the church inviolate; the abruptness of it all was what hurt. The concert was on, and the basement idea was not entertained. In the dilemma the good Bishop Brown, now deceased, appeared in the city just about that time. It was decided to appeal to him as court of the last resort. The plea was made that an entertainment of the nature of all music would not reflect on the church even in its ruling to permit nothing but Christian worship. The bishop, without hesitation, held that music—singing and on instruments—were to the glory and honor of God. Much of the music was sacred, as most of the master compositions are, and also solos.

The stage is not so near the church as a sacred concert, yet when there are exhibited the talents developed to the fullest, it seems in accord with the notion of Him who gave the talents. They are to be developed as those given by the lord of the vineyard. The stake presents very much that might be seen and admired by all. This has in mind the presentations that mean to be clean.

We think Mr. Hogan's class would be accepted at the church today. Really, the theatrical people, if known, would be an attraction. In many commuities Mr. Hogan would be paid the greatest respect. And were he to contribute from a half dollar or up, the minister would call the members' attention to what Brother Hogan had done. The newer Negroes have a tendency to overdo the thing. A week or so ago when the Smart Set company were in Indianapolis they were invited to dinner. Why, the girls and boys for miles around knew about it, and gathered to see the diners—go in and come out just as the New Yorkers do to see a fashionable church wedding at high noon or some other hour. The dinner was all right, but it was not necessary for the town to turn out en masse, and in a most respectful sense. This is indicative, however, of what's taking place most everywhere. These people are the church ir the future church—the rest is plain.

Indeed, Mr. Hogan hasn't very much to complain of, unless he is guided by the past. Today the Negro actor is it; he has carte blanche, and justly entitled to it when conducting himself as other men. The preacher nowadays would make a "fuss" over Hogan or Aida Overton Walker or Black Patti, not to speak of that inimitable Williams, of Williams and Walker. And as to Walker he would be assigned to the choir, teacher in the Sunday-school and other duties that fell within the scope of his versatility. Dudley would be made a class leader. Johnson, of Cole and Johnson, would be pianist, organist and some times soloist. Bob Cole would be used once per year as Santa Claus. Others would be seized on by the pastors of today. It is the tendency.

The Eureka Comb

It is an assured fact that there is now on the market, a COMB, Scientifically Made of Hardened and Highly Polished Metals. Copper and Brass, associated together, conducts an influence over the scalp and hair. A phenomena, through its working ability, bringing the crimpy hair straight and silky in appearance, causing a rapid growth, a permanent cure for dandruff, stopping the hair from falling, making natural straight hair, light in weight and airy in appearance. The best hair dryer. No other metals so suitable for the hair. Brass and Copper are friendly to horn. The EUREKA COMB Guaranteed. Why not order today? Directions go with every comb. Price, complete, $1.50, by P. O. or Express Money Order. EUREKA COMB CO., Chattanooga, Tenn.

PERU, IND.

Special to The Freeman.

Johnny Leverett, son of J. P. Leverett, is visiting with his father during the holidays...Mrs. J. P. Leverett is visiting Miss L. S. Still at Cincinnati and will extend her trip to Lexington, Ky.

KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Special to The Freeman.

Mrs. Balck of Dayton, O., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. John Harris...Miss Grace Bowlin gave a Christmas tree party at her home on Ransom street...Mr. and Mrs. McHugh are visiting Miss C. Jones. ...Mr. and Mrs. Jones entertained friends at Christmas dinner...David Morgan spent Christmas in Three Rivers, Wis... The chapter of the Eastern Star gave a supper Tuesday evening, Dec. 29...Mrs. N. Bowlin is very ill...W. M. Thomas was in Battle Creek on business last week.

ONE OF THE BEST

Read What Others Say.

Manager of The Freeman;—

Please find enclosed checque for payment of my advertisement in advance from December 19th. I continue this advertisement because so far as my business is concerned, I regard "The Freeman" as one of the very best advertising mediums in the country. It has greatly increased my business in nearly every State and Territory in the Union. I feel that every dollar spent in advertising in your paper is well spent.

Respectfully Yours,
MME. L. C. PARRISH.

95 Camden Street, Boston, Mass.

THE STAGE

A CHRISTMAS CALL.

See here! See here!
I send you greetings of the year;
Though times be hard,
And money scarce,
'Cauce people are so stingy.
—SYLVESTER RUSSELL.

Williams and Stevens are the feature act at the Crystal Theatre this week at Milwaukee, Wis.

J. B. Norton, the stage manager of A. G. Allen's Minstrels, had to leave the show on account of illness, and would like to hear from all friends at 406 Pearl street, Greenwood, Miss.

Madam Mae Fisher, composer of a number of good songs that are now being published, will be the amusement director and producer of the Lincoln Theatre, Chicago, using the Fisher stock company.

Chintz Moore and wife are still in the "big city" New Orleans not doing anything at present. Would like to hear something. Regards to all. Joe Miller, Pearl Moppin, Jim Wise, Chas. McKenzie, write; 1005 Girod street.

Bailey Taylor ("Red") of the Abyssinnia Buffet, Indianapolis, entertained at dinner last Thursday at the Parker House in honor of S. H. Dudley of the Smart Set. Mr. Taylor will feature next season the song "I Am Your Doctor; Poke Out Your Tongue."

Billie Butler, the trap drummer, is now located at the Fulton Theatre, Pittsburg, Pa., and sends best regards to P. G. Lowery's bunch, Frank Mahara's bunch, S. T. Dunmore and all friends in and out of the profession. Would be pleased to hear from all friends. Permanent address, The Freeman.

RESOLUTIONS FOR NEW YEAR.

1. Act on the stage, not off.
2. Be modest in bearing and speech.
3. Speak English, not "Tenderloin."
4. Be earnest in your acting.
5. Be prudent with your earnings. The period of the average actor's earning power is brief.
6. Know a great deal about your own profession and as much as you can about everything else.
7. Don't accept success as too personal. Hamlets and Juliets have come and gone, but the plays go on forever.
8. Don't ascribe failure to bad luck. "Luck," as Lowell says, "is the prerogative, the reward of valiant souls."
9. So be valiant, and lucky.
10. Be true to your art, and, above all, be true to youreslves.

THE PROFESSION IN MILWAUKEE.

P. J. Cooper writes:

I had the pleasure of meeting the excellent team of Williams and Stevens, whose act is the feature at the Vaudette Theatre after having made a flying visit to the Dandy Dixie Minstrels in Charlestown, Ill., and found all well and business good. They were entertained with a smoker at the home of Mrs. N. Reed, 188 Sixth street, Wednesday night by local talent and members of the Cream City Band and Orchestra. Chas. Williams pulls the house with his comedy, while Augustus Stevens keeps the audience in a spell with his female impersonations until he takes off his wig.

P. J. Cooper is rehearsing a big act for vaudeville, numbering ten people and consisting of a little of everything.

Messrs. Williams and Stevens led the cake walk given by the Pleasure Club.

VENDOME THEATRE CO.

The Vendome Theatre Co. at Hamilton, O., is playing to packed houses every night.

The Clarks are scoring a big hit with "The Roll Call Upon the Golden Shore."

The Star Orchestra is with us.

Miss Watkins is sending them away screaming with her singing and dancing, using "Down in Jungle Town," a baboon specialty.

Uncle Joe Clark sends regards to his brother Eugene Clark. Please write.

Billy Watkins is still holding the audience spellbound singing "Hello, Howdy, Goodbye," and "He Didn't Ask, He Didn't Say, So I Don't Know."

Uncle Joe Clark is still setting them crazy with his "Hot Tamale Man" song and dance.

Robert Clark is "some old man."

The entire company sends regards to all friends.

FOREIGN STAGE NOTES.

El. E. and Mamie Holman are in St. Petersburg, Russia, doing fine.

* * *

Henry Williams and Lady Lore are in St. Petersburg meeting with much success.

* * *

The Washingtons, Dan and Minnie, presented their big dancing and singing act at the Etabl "Yard" at Moscow, Russia, the oldest music hall in that country, last month. They are now in Germany. They send regards to J. Harry Jackson, P. G. Lowery and all their Indianapolis, New York and St. Louis friends.

* * *

Ollie Burgoyne is a big success at the La Scala, Moscow.

* * *

Walker and May, Charlie and Ida, America's premier colored comedians and dancers, continue to delight audiences "across the pond." It will be remembered that Mr. Walker is the great blind comedian. The Freeman is in receipt of a beautiful souvenir post card with their likeness thereon.

DANDY DIXIE MINSTRELS.

Business is above the average for holidays. Everybody is happy and has a pleasant smile from one pay day to another and the "ghost" never walks on crutches.

The Dandies were greeted with a swell social function at Jacksonville, Ill., given by the famous musical artists Messrs. Edward and Frank Mallory, the K. of P. Hall being crowded to capacity, mostly ladies of Jacksonville's smart set. We are convinced that the Mallory brothers, who are still lovers of the profession, have a warm spot in their hearts for both profession and professional people by the overtures and advantages they made to our faithful H. S. Wooten, who made several purchases from them which were of an advantage to Wooten, and proved by their charges that they were still in line.

Walter Lee, our own cornetist, has purchased a gold Bisson cornet and will no more be called "The Old Broken Bucket" but the "Gold Bucket."

We will always remember Jacksonville's smart set.

"WELL DAHOMEY."

By JULI JONES JR.

Dahomey is in the same old place on State street, between 26th and 35th. This is the famous Stroll and it is the one best place to see everybody and everything. The roundup of the year has worked wonders in it and many changes have been made. There has been plenty of business and some of the houses have made money; others had a hard time of it. The opportunity afforded the amateur actors has not been taken advantage of very much, except by a very few. The colored acts have grown stale and the white acts have invaded the troubled shores and are doing very well. The bill offered for the week was below the average, but the houses were packed last night. If things don't change in the way of offering bills, there will be a big falling off in business. Williams & Walker are due here soon and for a run they are unquestionably the card every time they come to town.

NEW ORLEANS (LA.) STAGE HAPPENINGS.

THE PEKIN is leading this week by a small margin over the Grand. The Pekin offers W. H. Thomas in "A Congo King." This is the Congo gent's second adventure and it is hard to write about this play; yet there are some good spots in it. Lottie Grady outshines the others so far that the play should be called "The Congo Queen." The chorus was good in places with one exceptionally good alto soloist, and the rest of the bill was just fair.

THE GRAND offered a fairly good bill but was not up to its standard, and one of its drawbacks was the absence of Miss Josephine DeVance, the regular house soprano. This was her third week and had just settled down to do some real singing, which she can do. But sickness cannot be helped. The other members on the bill got by; that's all.

THE WASHINGTON offered "The Nashville Student by the stock company. It is hard to find a place to start in, as it looked like the burden of Jerry Barnes. Mr. Barnes is a clever comedian and should the opportunity ever offer itself to Mr. Barnes to go into some big company the public will get a chance to see a good comedian.

THE MONOGRAM opened again with plenty of excitement and is now a tencent house with Tom Thumb stage. It had a bad orchestra but a pretty good attendance. Miss Lizzie Hart is the future card, but she has a severe cold and is not herself. This young lady is about worked down and should take a long needed rest.

THE LINCOLN is still in the fighting line and Willie Ingals has charge of the orchestra and stage. Now, what do you think of that? And Wild Man Morris, the booking agent, will put from twenty to thirty people on the stage at once. At this house it is hard to say what's going to happen next.

THE ROYAL has turned down the gas once more. This is the house whose managers had everybody up in the air; but the mystery solved itself. Last night no lights meant no show.

The maiming bug is kicking up dust around here. Glass for glass and Banks got into trouble. Christmas day the news broke out that Chas. Gardner, the Pekin electrician, is out for trouble. His lot will be from dear old Kentucky.

The Dewey Aid and Pleasure Club is one of the most popular clubs of this city. It was organized March 14, 1904, and has neat and cozy club rooms at 1660 Granier street. The club gave a grand ball last week at the Masonic-Odd Fellows' Hall, which was a grand success. The officers are: Wm. P. Johnson, president; Wm. Marvel, vice president; J. S. Perry, financial secretary; Wm. Jackson, recording secretary; J. Wilson, treasurer.

Louis Gorham, the popular tenor and member of the renowned St. James choir, is taking a course in stenography and printing at Straight University, with prospects to embark in business soon.

John H. Lewis, the black-face minstrel, who has become quite a favorite, expects to open Lincoln Park this summer. He sends regards to his friends of the "profesh." His address is 128 South Roman street.

J. C. Rhodes, the boy comedian and ventriliquist, is making a hit in his new sketch "The Boy and the Barrell." He is open for dates. Address 228 South Johnson street.

The Kenner & Lewis Amusement Co. has just returned from a successful tour of Brookhaven, Jackson, Miss., Hammond, La., Magnolia, Miss., McComb City, Miss., where they done very well under the manageemnt of L. C. Quinn.

Mrs. W. J. Nickerson, the popular and cultured wife of Prof. W. J. Nickerson, president of the Elyssium Theatre Co., and daughter of Col. James Lewis, the noted Government official, G. A. R. man, and politician, died recently. She was a noted musician, gifted as violinist, pianist, etc. Her loss will be felt for her various talents and standing in the community.

FRANK MAHARA MINSTRELS.

We have just returned from a trip to the Black Hills and Dec. 29 finds us in Iowa, our home State.

W. M. Lee, who has been in the employ of Mr. Mahara for the past four years, gave the company an excellent spread Christmas eve.

Messrs. H. G. Clark and Robert Freeman had charge of the affair and a good time was enjoyed by all. Whist was the prevailing game and toasts were said and everyone retired in the we small hours wishing long life, health and happiness to Will Lee and The Freeman.

The following was our Christmas program:

All persons were seated at the tables in couples:

Mr. and Mrs. S. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. D. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. James Harris, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Freeman, Messrs. E. Frye, N. Kincaid, A. Hughes, C. Skillen, A. Moss, H. Hull, Geo. Wilkerson, F. Hughes.

Music.—"Rock of Ages," brass quartet, H. O. Clark, cornet; A. Hughes, alto; Jas. Harris, baritone; H. Hull, tuba.

Prayer by W. B. Williams.

Jas. Harris, master of beverages.

Mr. F. L. Mahara was cordially invited to attend the affair.

Supper was prepared by Mrs. Leah Clark and Mrs. Lelia Freeman.

The following dishes were on the menu: Radishes, pickles, olives, celery, turkey with oyster dressing, cranberry sauce, maccaroni, potatoes, pumpkin pie, mince pie, oranges, bananas, coffee, tea, milk, beer, Tom and Jerry, cigars and cigarettes, nuts and raisins.

THE NEW YEAR'S CREDENTIALS.

BY SYLVESTER RUSSELL.

Fondly and fervently we hope that the present new year will bring some fruition. The colored profession does not know that its chief purveyors have drifted astray and that everything is all gone wrong; they may not know it until the Eighth Annual Review, which is to appear next week, is presented. After the review is read will be no time for actors to faint or enter into mourning. The revolution of time has presented its credentials. The errors of the big ones must be rectified by the keen sensibility of public sentiment and the defects of productions must be regulated according to the basis of the "legitimate standard." The work of the new year will depend mainly upon these circumstances. It is true and must be admitted that the coming review will be a little mite severe, but the public and sensible actors have all learned by this time not to take executive traditional criticism seriously, and if others do there will not be any actor retaliation accepted hereafter by The Freeman management, to be published as slander in return for criticism. Neither is The Freeman responsible for opinions expressed by the efficiency of the writer. We are migrating to a pretty state of tin toy quality when traditional criticism cannot be expressed without reciprocity, and herein rests a problem which has its solution only in the most exacting judgment of the managing editor's wastebasket or in the soup house of a common grade of actors, known as duckers and professional villifiers, who want to duck the issues just for the sake of the empty beating of a few proud hearts that throb within. The longing of some performers to seek newspaper flattery, because they are paid by the people as servants of buffoonery, to amuse them, is a dread desire, and more especially when they climb the trunk of their own tree of limited knowledge without seeing themselves as others see them.

There is no limit to the work and zeal of an actor's life. Just when he imagines he is on the topmost bough of a tall, slender tree, the limb gives way and his feet are lowered to the ground and his head reduced to a normal size in proportion. What then? Has he not to begin again to climb right over? All his zeal must be waxed by resolute fortification. He is forever climbing up a tree, not knowing whether it bears any fruit or not. He is always amazed at a windfall; just what his luck will be depends upon the strength of his specialty and the price he receives as a reward for his work. If his reward is based upon economy and his act is a drawing card, this and stability of character will carry him to success, provided he is unaffected by the sure appearance of flattery and criticism.

New York, one would expect, from the terrible splurge of hollow-ground notions that have been presented by the new unsuspected page of journalism, should have been able to present more desirable and reliable credentials. But no; what actors want to know they will have sense enough to look for; they will know where to find it, despite the stormy clime of exactness with which they will meet with accurate reality and the truth. Moreover, they will meet with desirable information, a thing they are loath to admit, and the whole compartment must come from the West. New York is a place where comedy stars and vaudeville performers with big reputation must come to get booked up, but it is not the main center of the colored profession at large. Chicago and Indianapolis are the main centers of the country. With the critic of all critics located in Chicago and the national newspaper of greater circulation published at Indianapolis, that Chicago is the most important center is indisputable. To add to this we have the Pekin Theater, the only recognized successful colored stock company house in America, and in this adventure we must look for a newly developed school of actors, playwrights, musicians and producers. Another advantage to the profession will be that all traveling companies of recognizable size play Chicago, and all the actors, great and small, will have an equal chance to be reviewed and treated as though they were living without subjugation to disqualification simply because New York is the greatest city of the United States, and so far away that no actor, except a big imaginative star is able to pay to get a puff from the new, serene press of a hungry, thirsty Gotham publication. The New Year's credentials must then necessarily and henceforth come from the West. We will try the contest for a season and see if a wholesome central location of journalism is not better than a part-competent deal of local current topic rubbage from the lonesome tribe of a flooded city.

THE SMART PEOPLE IN INDIANAPOLIS

S. H. Dudley as the Black Politician.

Theatre-goers of this city were thrown into a little flutter of excitement some fifteen or twenty days ago when the billboards and the newspapers announced that the "Smart Set," presenting "The Black Politician," would be an attraction at the Park Theatre during the holidays. The well-known company played Dec. 24 to 26, including matinees; was greeted by large, appreciative audiences, many of whom had seen the show in the two preceding seasons and yet hugely enjoyed this season's presentation.

The show impressed all, whether the casual observer or the veteran theatregoer, as brisk; it was swift in movement, apparently due to the well-trained players who fitted their parts as cogs of a wheel, carrying them out with admirable precision. There was something doing from the tap of the bell for curtains up. The introduction was a pace-setter, full of stunts that made a good impression at once.

As usual with such plays, there is somewhat of a plot, just enough, just strong enough to hold through while the other business swings around, filling up the crevices and in some instances assisting materially in showing up the drama phase. "The Black Politician" is singularly fortunate in this respect; the greater portion of the presentation, seemingly detached, is so much support to the "play," notwithstanding the loose and desultory way it appears at first blush. The play represents a contest for the mayoralty of Marco, a Negro town. Both contestants are Negroes.

"Ephraim Grindle," by Irving Allen, is an excellent piece of work. Grindle is one of the candidates for mayor. He types a class of fine old aristocratic Negroes—very decent, yet a little game. His friends having been disappointed in securing a manager for his campaign that had the required astuteness, chance blew the "Black Politician" in his way, and who was accepted as the last resort. After a meeting between Grindle and the Black Politician, which was of the rough house order, they got their heads together. The coming together was cleverly devised by the Black Politician's friend of other days, who had accentuated the friendship mostly by getting him in jail. He, however, consents to act, but under the condition that both he and his friend go to jail in the event of future trouble. "Walker Tires," Jerry Mills, is the friend, a part he portrays cleverly. His numerous tilts with his protege afford much fun, owing to the genuine humor. Before one ripple of laughter of the audience subsided another was on. Both Dudley and Mills showed up to advantage in this perhaps the best remembered part of the show.

"Remus Boreland," by Ed Green, was that of artist with his work well in hand. He was the opposing candidate for mayor of Marco. Boreland's tactics were somewhat villainous. Green acted the part thoroughly — proving a very acceptable villain. Playwright and stage manager that he is, he had a fine conception of his part, and, what is more, the ability to make good.

"Hezekiah Doo," better known as S. H. Dudley, the Black Politician, is very well adapted for his part. He is dubbed the premier Negro comedian, and for his class of work, which is of the rough and ready sort, the title is generally conceded him. The Black Politician is not rowdy rough, but just a common Negro, one you would meet on Indiana avenue every day—likely to break out at any place and at any time in song or in dance. His replies—sorties of wit—are without apparent effort, such as would be expected of that kind of a Negro when situations lead up to them. It is this naturalness that makes Dudley go big. What he says or does is humorous—funny, because it is, and not because it is Dudley. Reputation, of course, helps some; but he delivers the goods.

In taking hold of Grindle's campaign, the Black Politician started in a little green — going with the momentum furnished by his friend adviser "Tires." He stumbled along until the time came for the running of the candidates' horses, when it was discovered that his man's horse had no jockey. Right here the Black Politician threw himself into the breach—acted on his own initiative, at the right time in the right place, dramatically exclaimed that he would ride the horse, saying also that he had found out a thing or two which he thought rather scoundrelly. It was yet more dramatic when the erstwhile jockey, the Black Politician, plunged in on the stage on the back of a real horse. He had won the race, which good service contributed to his popularity and which promised to eventuate in the selection of his man for mayor—a thing which happened.

The chastisement of his mule for kicking the horse he was to ride and for its recent bad behavior was a feature of the show.

As a whole the show averages up with the other well-known Negro combinations. The character is different, owing to which difference of opinions have been expressed about it. The singing was good — the chorus work. The company is not so strong in leading sopranos, according to what Indianapolis has been used to, consequently the individual singing did not call forth the usual commendatory comment. The work of Miss Glenn as Miss Mexico was notably good. Her dancing—skirt and high kicking—was a very pleasing phase. "Love Me Like I Like to Be Loved" was takingly sung by Miss Glenn. It had dash and spirit—the qualities of the young woman—and made a hit with the audience. "Hezekiah duet," Dudley and Glenn, was well rendered. Wm. Ramsay has a rich baritone voice which he showed to good effect in the song "I Love My Heart." Dudley was called back "indefinitely" in his "Old Black Crow." His "Right Church But the Wrong Pew" was great.

The work of J. C. Wright as "Silas Jackson," civil war relic, was good—he was amusing. He was punctilious as to his title won on the field of battle. He was a trifle "disheveled" in his garments; he was whole on war talk, however, being ready at the slightest opportunity to expatiate on the "ge-lorious" war, the Battle of Manasas and the rest of it.

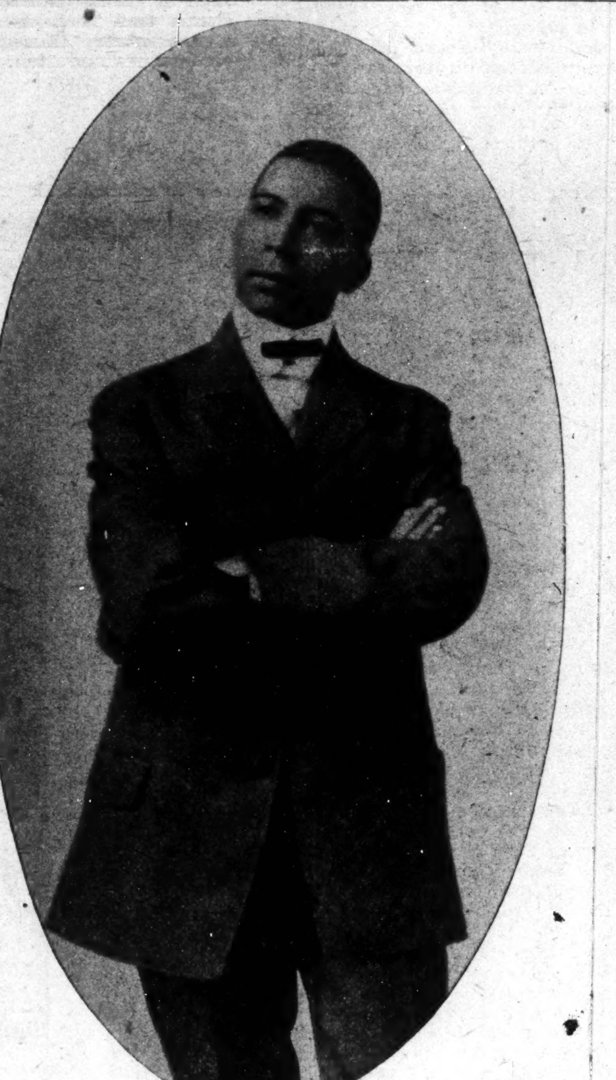
Alberta Ormes was good as "Samantha Grindle." "Seph Kott," sheriff, by Matt Johnson, was well characterized; he looked a sheriff according to the popular conception—worthy of tying a hangman's noose.

The drill of the Smart Set company was of difficult military evolution—the results added by brilliant costuming wa sa distinct feature of the show.

Others taking a more or less prominent part were Jennie Pearl, Tillie Cottman, Daisy Mitchell, Ella Jones, Florence Brown, Josephine Lozzo, Rebecca Roper, Lizzie Carrington, Mabel De Hurd, Irene Tasker, Dora Weaver, Marie Walker, Maud Hudson, Jennie Hillman, Rosetta Falk, Hattie Winslow, Louisa Brown.

According to Mr. Dudley, this is the last season for the Black Politician. After the three years' presentation he thinks the public wants something else. He being a real comedian will make good in anything that may be written along the lines of his work. Mr. Dudley promises the public the best thing that ever happened for next season.

Tim Brymm presided at the piano and at times wielded the baton. Brymm is efficient in either capacity, pianist or as a wielder of the stick. The sight of him inspires confidence, and then he is enthusiasm's self, the musician's best asset. Everything starts off in order under Mr. Brymm and stays in order.



SHERMAN H. DUDLEY.

"COON" SONGS MUST GO.

"Coon" songs after the great damage they have done to the American colored man, are now dying out. Although "rag" time melody may live forever, the words "coon," "nigger" and 'darkey are now being omitted by song writers. Usually some ficticious name as "Sam Johnson" and "Linda Lue" are used in the lines of poetry instead of the word "coon" which is very offensive to the colored race and makes the hair raise on their heads when they hear it. There is a great difference in composers of 20 years ago to the later day poets. The authors who wrote "Suwanee River," "Old Black Joe" and others like those, songs that will live forever, never used bad words, slang, etc. Nowadays the composers have no respect for good people, no thought of elevating, careless of hurting good innocent people's, they rush their horrible junk on the market for sale. Out for graft, they use slang hurried-up poetry—anything that will sell quickly. The colored writers not knowing the harm they were doing, took a stick to break their own heads, by writing "coon" songs. The old authors seemed to write with a good sympathetic feeling toward the race and the more popular their songs, he more sympathy we got. If we only had such writers now?

The first "coon" song was composed by a little insignificant, sawed off and hammered down west India banjo player by the name of Chas. O'Brien, in San Francisco in 1892. He sang on an excursion boat and passed the hat. A white man, a music publisher heard him sing, invited him to his store where he and O'Brien rigged up a song called "Mah Angeline," It was published and played by all the bands and sang everywhere, being a new wrinkle in the way of music. Bert A. Williams was at that time singing for the price of chili and beans at a side show on Market street, San Francisco. He heard this new song, gave it the name of "Dora Deen," and claimed himself the author. O'Brien sued William's publishers and it went to court. The Judge declared it a vulgar song because in it were the word "coon." But he decided that both parties could have the authority to publish and sell the song. Bert Williams sent his song east and O'Brien stood his ground and sold them like hot cakes. Soon after, Earnest Hogan got some white man to publish "All Coons Look Alike." The music was catchy, the words were amusing, and the title page disgusting in their attempt to portray a typical Southern Negro.

Two thirds of the white people today don't know that colored men write songs. Its hard to make them believe that Gussie L. Davis, one of the most popular song writers this country ever produced, was a Negro. White composers now seeing that there were money in "coon" songs, they all commenced to write. They soon discovered that it didn't require education, talent, refinement or anything that was really good to write a "coon" song. All they had to do was to get two verses and a chorus of anything bad they could say about the Negro in a humorous way. Put the words to rag time or a slow drag tune to suit the words, and in the poetry use the word "coon" as often as possible, and their fortune was made provided the song became popular. If it never was played by Sousa's band or sang on the Orpheum Circuit, the song was "shelved" or "pigeon holed." There are as many 'coon songs published today and lying on the shelf—never snng, never introduced as there are drops of water on ariny day. It used to cost $40.00 to publish a song, now they have dwindled down to $2.00, with a royalty of three cents per copy to the author.

Within the last five years the more trash put into a song the better it sold, even if it only lasted a month. Four years ago the air was rank with "coon" songs. Every song of Southern melody or ragtime was titled a "coon song." Williams & Walker are a great deal to blame for being the originators and establishing the name "coon" upon our race. They met a white man in San Francisco by the name of McConnell who put them on the circuit. In order to achieve success or to attract the attention of the public they branded themselves as "the two real coons." Their names accompanied with "coon" songs was soon heralded North, East, South and West. As much as to say the Negro has now changed his name! He is no more human, but a "coon." His new nickname was now printed in large type without quotation marks. Williams & Walker and Ernest Hogan were not old enough then to know the harm they had brought on the whole race. They neede dthe money, what little they received, and the white people needed the laugh on the ignorant and the largest amount of money they made in the speculations. Colored men in general took no offense at the proceedings and laughed as heartily on hearing a "coon" song as the whites. But where the rub came is when the colored man was, called a "coon" outside of the opera house. Instead of the whole race raising up in arms and protesting against such slang used in songs and such horrible caricatures on the title pages, they good naturedly joined in the chorus "All Coons Look Alike to Me."

Within the last few years I notice the colored writers have cut out the word "coon" in their poetry. Some few white ones still use it and the latest agony is "If the Man in the Moon Were a Coon." Songs sell as well now without the word "coon" as they did when they were chuck full of "coon." Every colored man and oman of any pride, whether educated or not, becomes grossly insulted when called a "coon." Yet he can't go to a theatre nor listen to a phonograph without being told that he is a "coon." The name "coon" in a song, we understand, is only meant as an assumed name, just to amuse or to cause laughter while you are hearing the song or seeing the play; but it don't stop there. A show goes to a country town—some low down, loud-mouth "coon shouter" sings "Coon, Coon, Coon," or some other song that has plenty of "coon" in it, with an emphasis on the word "coon." Then the people, especially the children, are educated that a colored man is a "coon." What was meant for a jest is taken seriously. Before the show came the people were afraid to call a black man a "coon." Or they may have wanted to show him some respect by calling him "colored." But now they think it's all right and he won't mind, because it's all in fun and it's in all the songs. In this way and many other ways too numerous to mention, "coon" songs have done more to insult the Negro and cause his white brethren, especially the young generation, to have a bad opinion of good Negroes as well as bad Negroes, than anything that ha sever happened. Just imagine Booker T. Washington or some of our worthy bishops or other great men of our race walking on the street on their way to lecture on "How to Educate the Race," and they hear a lot of trashy boys singing, as soon as they see the colored man, "Coon, Coon, Coon" or "Bill Simmons" or anything that comes in their mind as a sly way of insulting the gentleman of color.

Dr. Talmadge was outspoken in denouncing nicknames in print. In fact, great men never allowed such slang as "coon" and "nigger" in print. Occasionally the word "darkey" was used. They had more respect for the race. History says that mankind is the highest of animals and that Adam named every living thing. He never intended a human being to be called a "coon." Congress called the American Negro "colored" to distinguish them from the genuine African. If Congress had given us the name "coon," the slang slinging, so-called Americans would have, no doubt, called us "colored" just to be contrary and insulting. A song writer once told me that he objected to using the word "coon" in his poetry but he had to because it rhymed with moon, loon, tune and spoon. It's only one syllable and easier to articulate than the word Negro or colored. Now, then, if the law had in the beginning made it a penalty for any compositor to set up in type the word "coon" and "nigger" in songs and plays, and had demanded or enforced respect for the race there would be less prejudice, ill feeling and trouble between the races. But the time will come when a spade will be called a spade. Certain slang and nicknames should be abolished, even if it cost bloodshed—the same as it did to abolish slavery.

The inhabitants of Butte, Mont., are most all Irish. Two years ago a burlesque show came there and posted lithographs caricaturing and ridiculing the Irish. The company was arrested, the house closed and bills torn down and the show had to leave town. Four years ago a bill was introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature to cut out cartoons in newspapers, but it didn't pass. The voters against it were bought up by the Associated Press. Ireland might have been free today only for the songs they published against England. Do you know that a song can touch the heart? They bring laughter and tears, sympathy or ill feeling, especially when the writer gets personal or when he is writing for himself—careless of whose feelings he may hurt. Abraham Lincoln once wrote a harsh letter to a man and after considering how the man might feel over it, he threw the letter in the stove. Every composer who writes a song with the word "coon" in it should do the same.

LOGANSPORT, IND.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Orville Turner of Ft. Wayne spent a few days in the city last week visiting his father...The children rendered a very neat play Christmas eve at Bethel. All who assisted carried out their parts well and with credit. We are pleased to see the children of our city take such an active part. They were under Mrs. J. Craven, Mrs. Janet Jones and L. G. Brook...Mrs. Frank Carter is spending the week in Chicago...Mrs. Henry Harris is pending a couple of days in Marion the guest of Mrs. Morgan...Bethel Church was pretty well crowded Sunday evening to hear the choir render the cantata entitled "The Hope of the World," and the congregation, from all appearances, seemed to be well pleased...Mr. and Mrs. Chavis of Kokomo spent Christmas in the city the guest of Mrs. Chavis' mother and daughter...Mrs. Elwood Winslow entertained Mrs. Evans of Fountain City and Dorothy Johnson at dinner last Sunday...Mrs. J. L. Craven is suffering with a severe cold, but it is hoped that she will be better in a few days...Mr. and Mrs. Bowen have gone to Piqua, O., for a couple of weeks...Miss L. Moss of Peru spent Sunday in the city the guest of Miss Celia Parker...The Bachelors Club gives a dance Wednesday night at G. A. R. Hall.

CORAOPOLIS, PA.

Special to THE FREEMAN.

Rush Bawmen returned Sunday from a visit to his sister, Mrs. Miner Johnson... Leonard Jeanner was badly burned at his work at the Canfield, O., refinery...Geo. Bawman returned from Cleveland...Mayo Satton and Willie Kitchen have returned home from Canada...The Mount Olive Baptist Church held its baptism on Sunday, Dec. 27. The candidates were Misses Boyd, Helen Robinson and Caroline Johnson...O. J. Douglas, our candidate for councilman, and a company have opened a colored grocery store on Fourth avenue...The New Hope Baptist Literary is getting along fine under the presidency of Carl Quall...Mr. and Mrs. John Flood gave an elaborate dinner in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson Sunday...Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Johnson gave a Christmas dinner in honor of her granddaughter, Mrs. Anna Glemons of Pittsburg. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Douglas and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. John Flood and many other friends of Pittsburg... The Christmas entertainment at the Mount Olive Baptist Church were fine with many compliments to the teacher.

Geo. B. Rhone, well known in the profession as a Violinist and Trombonist of exceptional ability, and wife, Mabel De Hearde Rhone, closed with Jesse L. Laskey's Big Musical Vaudeville Act: The 14 Black Hussars at Proctors 125th St. Theatre, N. Y. city, last spring are now with the Smart Set Co. leading S. H. Dudley's famous Jaw Bone Band, of which Brother Dudley is very proud. The Smart Set spent their Xmas in Indianapolis, Ind., playing the Park Theatre: Cincinnati to follow. Regards to friends, in and out of the profesesion.

LABORING MEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION NO. 1,

Plaquemine, La.,

is now in first class order for all traveling minstrels or opera troupes, with all necessary lights and equipment. Stage 18x26; two dressing rooms 10x18. House is located in center of town with a business surrounding and seats 750.

Verret & Dorsey, Mgrs.,

P. O Box 207, - Plaquemine, La.

W. E. WILSON, THE MAGICIAN,

is now idle; would like engagement about Jan. 1st. Address

W. E. WILSON,

209 Third Street, - Burlington, Ia.

Coming Soon

A RABBIT'S FOOT COMEDY,

The greatest Negro show of them all.

A Continued Success.

Watch and wait for the Big Comedy

PAT CHAPPELLE,

Box 702, - Jacksonville, Fla.

WANTED Colored Vaudeville Acts!

Colored acts laying off in Chicago or near by, send me your open time. Can give from one to six weeks work. Colored acts of all descriptions send me your open time.

Marion A. Brooks, Grand Theatre, State & 31st Sts., Chicago.

All Performers, when in Cincinnati,

Please take notice that Iowen M. Lawson, the Cincinnati song writer, is now located in private professional headquarters, at the Nunn & Kincaid Company, 430 West Fifth Street.

The Royal Saloon and Cafe.

CHARLIE H. McKENZIE

"SOME" CONTORTIONIST

Florida Blossoms, Season '08.

AS TO NEGRO BANDMASTERS

Activity of Emmett J. Scott to Secure Negro Bandmasters for the Four Regular Regiments.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21—The fight for Negro bandmasters for the four regiments in the United States Army came to an end, it now develops, on November 18, at which time President Roosevelt issued an order behind which no technicality can go to keep worthy and capable black men from succeeding the white men who are now bandmasters in colored regiments.

The letter files of the War Department show that Mr. Taft, as Secretary of War, on January 26, 1907, issued the first order, upon application of Emmett J. Scott of Tuskegee, Ala., directing that black men be appointed to these four places as rapidly as capable colored men could be found to take the places. After eighteen months, or more, two of the regiments still had white bandmasters. The correspondence which here follows shows that President Roosevelt acted promptly when he determined that while the letter of the former order was being followed, its spirit was not altogether being respected.

Mr. Scott, under date of October 16, 1908, wrote Mr. William Loeb Jr., the secretary of the President, as follows:

"My dear Mr. Loeb:

"Some eighteen months ago, Secretary Taft, with the approval of the President, as I understand it, issued an order to the effect that in the future no white man should be enlisted to serve as a bandmaster in colored regiments.

"The chief musician of the Tenth Cavalry, Fort McKinley, P. I., it is reported, is white and was re-enlisted to serve with the Tenth Cavalry last August and as the chief musician. The chief musician of the Twenty-fourth Infantry has not so far been supplanted with a colored man, although I understand he is at present on furlough.

"Would it not be possible for both of these places to be filled by the appointment of suitable colored men, thus carrying out in letter and in spirit the order issued by Secretary Taft, of which you are of course well advised?

"Yours very truly,
(Signed) "EMMETT J. SCOTT."

To this a reply was sent by Mr. Loeb, which led to another communication from Mr. Scott, as follows:

"NOVEMBER 16, 1908.

"Hon. William Loeb,
Secretary to the President,
Washington, D. C.

"MY DEAR MR. LOEB—I am very much obliged to you for the very complete reply you have had sent to me, in response to my letter of some days ago.

"The interpretation placed upon the order issued by the Secretary of War, under date of January 16, 1907, a copy of which

EMMETT J. SCOTT.
Secretary to Booker T. Washington.

was sent to me at the time by Mr. Taft, is not what I expected with respect to the enlistment of bandmasters in colored regiments.

"I cordially appreciate, however, the injustice of interpreting the order in such a way as to discharge a man from a position in which he has been faithfully serving. The position of bandmaster is one of the high positions in the Army which I believe the colored people are now able to fill satisfactorily, and I am, of course, like many others, anxious that Negro musicians who have the qualifications shall have the opportunity which was opened to them by order of the Secretary of War, above referred to.

"This, Mr. Loeb, explains my interest in the matter and my excuse for troubling you and the President, as I have been doing.

"Yours very truly,
(Signed) "EMMETT J. SCOTT,
"Secretary.

Immediately upon receipt of this communication, the following notes were sent from the White House:

"NOVEMBER 18, 1908.

"My Dear Mr. Scott:

"Your letter of the 16th instant has been received, and I enclose herewith a copy of a supplemental order which the President has just sent to the War Department in the matter of colored bandmasters.

"Very truly yours,
(Signed) "WM. LOEB, JR.,
"Secretary to the President.

"Mr. Emmett J. Scott,
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama."

"NOVEMBER 18, 1908.

"To the Secretary of War:

"Wherever there is a vacancy for bandmaster in a white regiment, transfer a white bandmaster from a colored regiment to it and fill the place by the assignment of a colored man. This is to carry out the spirit of the order I have already issued. As soon as it can be done without injustice, I wish all the colored regiments supplied with colored bandmasters.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

The Negro people have had to fight for every recognition which has come to them during all of the forty years since the Civil War, and it is only to put on record the successive steps which have been taken to open this "door of hope" in the United States Army that this correspondence is submitted. The Negro people owe President Roosevelt an especial vote of thanks for this additional proof of an earnest desire to open new opportunities for them. More new positions have been opened to capable Negroes under Mr. Roosevelt than under any former national administration.

NEGROES PROSPEROUS ON MANHATTAN ISLAND.

The New York Tribune, in a recent article, spoke at length and most commendingly of the Negroes of Manhattan Island, saying:

"About ten years ago the number of Negroes who owned or controlled under lease properties on Manhattan Island could be quickly counted. Now there are from 150 to 200 such owners of realty here, and their ranks are being rapidly enlarged. Reports have been sent broadcast throughout the country setting forth the many profitable investments to be made here by the purchase of flathouses and store properties entirely rented and managed by Negro people, and they have elicited a ready response from Negro investors.

"C. H. Lockwood, a Negro, has bought for about $34,000 a flathouse at 164th street and Brook avenue. He is now one of the largest owners of tenements for Negroes in the greater city. The realty holdings of J. C. Thomas, another Negro, represent fifteen flathouses, the total value of which is conservatively estimated to be about $300,000. Some of his properties are free and clear, and two of his houses in the Pennsylvania tunnel terminal section are said to be worth more than $50,000 apiece. There was a report recently that he had had an offer of $100,000 for one of the houses.

"Mr. Thomas entered the market as a buyer in a small way. As one of the Negro districts of the city occupied a large area of the section which is now known as the midtown tunnel zone, he naturally was led to purchase property there first because of its rental power being higher than in other similar sections of the city. Other Negroes also became buyers of properties there long before the plans of the Pennsylvania Railroad for building at 33d street and Seventh avenue a tunnel terminal station to occupy many blocks were made public. The plans of the Pennsylvania railroad resulted in a movement to change the character of the neighborhood by replacing rows of old-fashioned flathouses with modern loft buildings and hotels for transient guests. Owing to that movement values in the section rose rapidly, and prodigious sums were realized from small investments.

"M. L. Frazier, a Negro lawyer, is al sonumbered among the largest owners of flathouses for Negroes in the greater city. It is said he owns about ten houses in various sections. William H. Smith, a Negro caterer, owns four flathouses, which prove a most profitable investment, and Joseph H. Bruce, another Negro, has large real estate holdings. Then there is Philip A. Payton, Jr., who for over eight years has been prominent as a real estate broker and investor in Manhattan properties.

"The principal Negro district of the city is between 133d and 136th streets and Fifth and Seventh avenues, and that Negro investor has got his firmest foothold and where he is most active. There are some apartment houses there where the rentals average $50 a month for each suite of rooms.

COLORED GIRL HELD SLAVE.

The colored people of Seattle are considerably worked up over what they construe to be the enslavement of a little colored girl nine years of age. Nora McPherson, the girl, is at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sizer, white. Mr. Sizer is a lumberman and apparently in good circumstances. He says that the girl was given to him by her father when he lived in North Carolina. She went with his family to Florida, thence to Seattle, their present home.

The Dorcas Club, a colored charity organization, learned of the girl, and decided to make investigation. Finding that she did not attend school, the club concluded that she was denied the privilege, and thought she was being held against her will at the lumberman's home. The club made complaint to the court. When Mr. Sizer appeared, he said that the child was in nis keeping, but declined to answer any questions as to how it came in his possession. He finally told the judge that he was willing to show his papers for the girl to him, but would not do so to any representatives of the Dorcas Society.

Mr. Sizer resented the interference on the part of the club, the women of which, he says, called at his home and upbraided his wife for holding the child in bondage, denying it schooling and association with other colored children. He put a good face on the affair, insisting that the child was taught at home and that he had privilege to teach it there. As for association Mr. Sizer said that the child acted of her own free will; it did not care for association. The judge, however, was not thoroughly satisfied; he took the matter under advisement.

Without any inclination to meddle in the affairs of Mr. Sizer or those of the Dorcas Club, yet it appears to us that Mr. Sizer, the white man, has the better of the situation. This has in mind the truthfulness of his statements. The Dorcas Club doubtless was actuated by the best of motives. In its investigation it seems that they struck on a proper character in Mr. Sizer, bearing in mind his statements. The club, as we see it, will be commended for its interest if not for its zeal. The lumberman was not known to have had such good intentions toward the child beforehand. It required the vigilance of the club to bring the facts to light.

The colored publication of that section speaks of Mr. Sizer as a rebel, with the view, of course, of establishing the greater probability of the relation charged. We think this very unwise, since it reflects on a great class of citizens who are the makeup of our Southern States, and with whom the Negroes have most to do. The reflection is not because called rebel, but by inference the class is held to be fit for the sort of thing thing that the colored people of Seattle think Mr. Sizer guilty of. If it turns out that the white man does all he says, treating the child with care and consideration, it will place those who have been unduly aggressive in an ugly situation.

Again, a child of nine years will not be so securely tucked away that it cannot let it be known about its condition, unless it is devoid of average intelligence. It hardly seems reasonable that Mr. Sizer would care to be "infested" with a child devoid of average intelligence in the interest of his own household. We hope for the good of the child that Mr. Sizer states the truth in the matter—that it is not being denied teaching, association or any thing that belongs to the ordinary girl of her age. We hope to hear of little Nora being pleasantly situated in a Christian home, where prayers are said at least on Sunday.

NEGROES JOIN IN WHITE PLAGUE FIGHT.

One of the greater movements of the day is the campaign against tuberculosis. The devastation by death in the Negro ranks by consumption and other phases of lung troubles has increased at an alarming rate within recent years. Up until a few years ago very little attention was paid the matter, many going so far as to deny that the ravages were nearly so frightful as pictured. Individuals in high places did not care to have the facts advertised, holding, often, that the charge was made as a reflection on the race, having in mind the lack of its hardihood. These colored men thought they were conferring a favor on the race in trying to keep back the facts. Really they were not aware of the facts. But, when insurance companies began to put up their rates, and when the tell-tale statistics of health boards became generally known, there was no getting around the facts.

It will not be said in truth that the Negroes are predisposed to pulmonary trouble. Their history when in bondage was the same as other races when cared for properly. The master was informed along health rules; he saw to it that the Negroes were properly clothed as to warmth. It was supremely to his interest to do so. He insisted on the keeping of proper hours. And until this day it is the delight of the older class to speak of how they broke out of quarters, walked for miles and miles to attend a dance, and then walked back before the old "massa" knew anything about it. Of course this condition did not prevail generally. Vigilance on the master's part was against it. Had they been less so, pulmonary troubles would have been just as great as they are today.

The Negro Congress on Tuberculosis met this week in Tuskegee. It took up the many phases of treating the disease, promising to wage a war to the finish.

Coincident with this meeting in Tuskegee is a determined effort on the part of the white population of the South to stamp out tuberculosis. Preparations are being made in Florida for a "ninety-day campaign," to commence immediately after Christmas, which is expected to reach every man, woman and child in the state with the message that consumption can be cured and that it should be prevented. Immediately after the campaign in Florida, a systemized attack will be commenced on the disease in Georgia. In Tennessee the warfare against tuberculosis has become in many counties a political issue, and plans for drastic legislation affecting this disease are being prepared. The three departments of Health, Agriculture and Education have united for the fight on the white plague. "Health days" and weeks are being observed throughout the South for the purpose of instructing the school children about tuberculosis.

WHAT MR. TAFT SAID.

The President-elect in his recent speech had the following to say:

"That in all Southern States it is possible, by election laws prescribing proper qualifications for the suffrage, which square with the fifteenth amendment, and which shall be equally administered as between the black and white races, to prevent entirely the possibility of a domination of Southern State, county or municipal governments by an ignorant electorate, white or black."

"It is possible by election laws prescribing proper qualification for the sufirage," etc. The inference is that the President-elect means that the constitutions of the Southern States square with the fifteenth amendment of the general Constitution; he, however, does not say so in direct language. The uncertainty of his meaning has called for expressions by prominent Negroes. Among them Bishop Walters, who thinks that Mr. Taft is holding out inducements to the South at the expense of the Negroes. Bishop Walters puts the most construction on the utterance when it would be quite as safe to maintain the other view. From his comment it will be seen that he holds that Mr. Taft meant that the present constitution of the Southern States were efficacious in securing equality of suffrage for whites and blacks, and thus indorsing them. It will, however, be observed that his language when strictly construed does not convey that impression. We are of the opinion that Mr. Taft did wish to make the impression, however, that in their rights when "prescribing proper qualifications for the suffrage," and more than likely he wished it to be known that what had been done the Southern States were actink withalong the line squared with the fifteenth amendment, his indifferent way of saying the thing to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Mr. Taft's position, or supposed position, is a new version. At Lexington, Ky., it will be remembered that he fully covered the situation. And as a law proposition, we must admit that the States, by authority of the Constitution, have a right to regulate the elective franchise. Ae we view it, Mr. Taft advanced nothing beyond the cold proposition. He said at that time that his unbiased expressions on the situation would insure him criticism from either side. As it concerns the Negroes he has not been disappointed.

The language of Mr. Taft's recent declaration is unassailable, whatever he means. The intent is something else. And right here is a parallel to the constitutions in question. They are unassailable in their forms, since they square with the fifteenth amendment—prescribing qualifications for the suffrage, and which applies equally from all appearance. The intent is hidden in the spiritual something, which, while sometimes contemplated, can of evil be successfully evaded. It is not plain how the States can be compelled to adhere to more than the letter of the law, especially when evil intents are denied.

We know that the Negroes are cut out of the voting privilege, and by the very instruments meant for relief. The Constitution makers say that the intent is not mischievous—that they are boosting up citizenship, or that they are preparing men for the high and responsible duties of electors, and that when the probationary period has been served that they will be duly entered on the rolls of the State as citizens in all the term implies. This is the expressed intent through the laws and tests, and by the individuals. Is it the understood intent?

Most Negroes, we think, would be content if they thought they were earnestly and honestly serving a waiting period, and along with other men in similar condition. But there's the rub. Other men in similar condition; most of them get by. The fact is the one thing that reflects on the advertised intentions. Negroes grow skeptical when grandfather clauses, revolutionary war clauses are rung in; they begin to think they are it. These high and hard conditions are meant to pass a push of white citizens which is thought have a better culture, albeit, deficient in othe requirements—educational, property and such like. The philosophy of the situation may call for such treatment, at least from the white man's viewpoint. Nor all of this is so vicious, provided the intent is good and survives until the Negroes averages up better with the white man in all respects.

The uglier phase of the situation is that having once been invested with all that go to make up citizenship, this important phase is now lost—"a backward step"—words which so poorly fit our time. It is evident that supreme courts and presidents have no sure control over the situation. The appeal to them, under the condition—race versus race—and it is virtually that which will not avail much. The appeal is from Caesar to Caesar, and there is no efficacy. Colored men have made the mistake of seeing the courts — the authorities — divorced from the people, as things set apart to grind out justice. It is so when the court and people are in touch, when the authorities are clothed with power by the people, since we have government for and by the people. Armies are unpopular when used to enforce conduct in a republic; the genius of a republican government eliminates them from the program for such purposes. We have had proof of the fact. And yet some of us insist that force should be resorted to in matters of this kind. The race must come up by some other method. That it must take its time is now more evident than ever. It is a sorry situation, yet, if the price be paid, the thing desired will be of greater value. If the test of the constitutions are really meant to bring up the citizens, then those that fail even of an effort should tarry at the threshhold. Mr. Taft is wise to the situation—sees nothing beyond the judicial aspect. And until there is better feeling it is fortunate that supreme courts and presidents can do something bearing the semblance of right and duty, if in the meanwhile an intenser antagonism is allayed that threatened hostility to the breaking point.

BISHOP WALTER'S ON MR. TAFT'S RECENT SPEECH.

I look on Mr. Taft's recent speech in New York City as a direct indorsement of the disfranchisement movement. It is all very well to talk of dividing the solid South, but it should not be done at the expense of the black man. If the right to vote was determined by mental qualifications, what chance would the colored man have in actual practice? He might be the mental superior many times over of the man who sat in judgment upon him, but in the South, with Southern men to determine the point, he would have no chance. I feel on the whole that Mr. Taft's policy, as outlined in his speech, puts the colored race in jeopardy of losing what they have fought so long and so hard to maintain."—Bishop Alexander Walters.

Bishop Walters evidently sees no hope from the incoming administration along the line of the so-called disfrancisement movement.

The following comment is observed:

"President Frost, of Berea, Ky., College, says that the "Jim Crow" section of that institution will be located on a tract of land covering about 200 acres accessible by railroad, the buildings being entirely new and convenient. The present board of Berea will be in control, with a new board to be composed of both races to be subsequently appointed. The faculty will be mixed and the instruction will be entirely normal and industrial for the present. The school (not college) will be religious but undenominational, with the several denominations represented on the board and in the faculty. The canvass for the $50,000 to be raised in Kentucky is now in progress, and our people have already subscribed $7,000 of this sum."

It strikes us that the criticism is unkind, coming from a Negro publication. The "Jim Crow" section is not a necessity as much as it may be desired. It appears that the school has been asked for by Negroes; it also appears that it has been granted on conditions. The fact that the Negroes have raised $7,00 of the re-

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SPORTING GOSSIP of the WEEK.

SPORTING SCRAPS.

By Harry W. Jackson.

Nelson has promised to meet Welch in February.

Fifty business and professional men of Los Angeles are planning to eradicate gambling.

Jeffries A. C. was making arrangements for a Burns-Ketchell bout. Since Burns has been defeated the bout has been declared off.

Jack Johnson boxed with a boxing kangaro at his training quarters, says an exchange in starting its story of the black heavyweight's workout for the day.

The Sydney papers are simply filled these days with stories of the two heavies who met there on the 26th for the heavyweight championship of the world.

Johnson boxing kangaroos is something on the order of Bob Fitzsimmons wrestling with his lion, Young Corbett tumbling with his pony, and Kid McCoy shadow boxing with his collie dog at Marlboro-on-the-Hudson. You never can tell what these fighters will do next.

Phil McGovern, brother of Terry, was a surprise to Young Pierce, the clever Germantown featherweight, whom he met in a windup at the Broadway Athletic Club Christmas. McGovern was in fine shape and jumped right at Pierce from the first, just as his famous brother Terry used to do when in his prime, and the way he lambasted Pierce had the crowd excited. Pierce had the advantage in height and reach, and by his great cleverness offset the Brooklyn lad, but had to extend himself to the limit and go faster than he has done for a long time in this city. McGovern was in great shape at the end and said he could have gone twenty rounds just as fast.

Alfred Shrubb, the English long-distance champion runner, has accepted the challenge to meet Tom Longboat, the Canadian Indian, the vanquisher of Dorando Pietro, in Madison Square Garden, New York. This additional Marathon race, so called, is arranged for the night of January 9. In according the conditions, the Englishman suggests that the runners post a forfeit of $2,000 each, and expressed the hope that three races be run in addition to the Marathon, at ten, fifteen and twenty miles respectively. Whatever be the result of the Shrubb-Longboat contest, it is said that the four-cornered long-distance contest between Dorando, Longboat, Shrubb and Hayes will be held soon thereafter.

JEFFRIES PROPOSES TO MATCH McFARLAND AND NELSON.

Fighters Will Weigh 133 Pounds Each.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Packey McFarland vs. Battling Nelson. This is the match Jas. J. Jeffries has in mind for a February date before his Vernon Club. Jeffries did not mean to give out this information so soon, but misled by reports that have reached Los Angeles, the retired heavyweight champion made known his wants. Jeffries today wired and asked if Packey could do 133 pounds ringside, a weight Nelson demands for all title matches.

Jeffries and the other coast fans have been led to believe that Packey has outgrown the lightweight class, and the report that somehow reached Los Angeles went as far as to say that Packey was now after the leading welterweights. Harry Gilmore, who has successfully piloted him to the position he now holds in pugilistic circles, said:

"Packey can do 133 pounds ringside as easy today as he could six months ago, but we are not making ringside for anybody except a champion. We are ready to permit Nelson to dictate the weight any time he is ready to fight. Packey will do 133 ringside or any weight and at any time. As for fighting him, I have given my answer long ago. We will agree to take him on at any time, the sooner the better."

SAM LANGFARD MAKES SHORT WORK OF JIM FLYNN.

Langford Outclasses His Opponent—Bout Ended After Two Minutes of Fighting.

Special to The Freeman.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—Sam Langford, the colored middleweight making his appearance in a local ring, made good with a vengeance and incidentally made short shift of Jim Flynn of Pueblo, Colo. Langford knocked out his man in the first round after only two minutes of fighting.

From the outset i twas plain to those present that Flynn did not have a chance. Langford lost no time in getting into action. No sooner had the men shaken hands than the colored Bostonian went after the Pueblo fireman, hammer and tongs. He swung a hard right to the body and a moment later scored with his left to the face. He gave Flynn no chance. Flynn rushed to close quarters, but found no shelter. Langford followed his advantage by sending his right and left to the body with great force.

FREEMAN—FIVE FIVE

After two minutes of fighting Langford feinted with his right. Like a flash he brought his left flush to the fireman's jaw with an impact that was heard all over the house. Flynn dropped as if hit with a log, his face turned purple and he rolled on his back till the pain from the blow caused him to turn. The count of ten was tolled of, but Flynn was too far gone to even hear the count. He was insensible for five minutes.

Langford was a 3 to 1 favorite in the betting.

GOSSIP ON THE BURNS-JOHNSON BOUT.

Joe Gans predicted the fight to last fifteen rounds. Good guesser, Joe.

"Johnson can lick three men like Burns. Jack will certainly embarrass Tommy." This is what Bob Fitzsimmons said of Johnson. Fitz ought to know the power of Johnson's slugs, as July 17, 1907, gave him a chance to know it.

Jeffries wanted Burns to win, of course, but not to his surprise Johnson skiddaddled the Canadian.

Battling Nelson terms Johnson the same kind of a fighter that Gans is—a scientific, quick and heady pugilist of rare ability.

There were 20,000 of the 50,000 estimated attedance before the fight who saw Johnson slaughter Burns.

Jack was six and one-half inches taller and fifteen pounds heavier than Burns.

Burns had the longer reach, but he couldn't use it.

Ages of the men: Johnson, 30; Burns, 27.

A peculiar thing about the fight was Burns was the favorite among the fans, but Johnson among the fighters. Who are the better judges?

The fight drew pugilistic enthusiasts from all over the big island.

Burns certainly dodged Johnson before they were matched, but the French-Canadian proved to be a failure as a dodger in the ring.

For four rounds Johnson pounded his opponent with savage cruelty. Burns was blinded and bleeding and reeling weakly away from the black man's tireless fists when the police, in pity, stopped the butchery. Burns took the count of eight four times in the battle.

No fighting like Johnson's was ever seen here since Australia was showed up above the waters. Australians understood why Fitzsimmons could not stand up for two rounds before the black man. Those who had bet on Burns at 7 to 4, and then tried to hedge by offering 2 to 1 on Johnson at the end of the first round, forgot their prospective losses in watching the marvelous attack of the dusky champion. He never appeared to move, but he made Burns seem slow and heavy footed. No heavyweight, with the possible exception of Corbett, ever rivaled his skill as a boxer.

When seen at his training quarters before the fight Tommy Burns said that, win or lose, it would be his last appearance in the ring, because his wife wants him to retire. As Burns has plenty of money this will be an easy matter for him. Burns intimated that he would settle in Australia for the rest of his life. He said he liked the country very much.

Measurements of the Men.

Burns.		Johnson.
12 inches	Forearm	13 inches
5 ft. 7¼ in.	Height	6 ft. 1¾ in.
13¼ in.	Biceps	14½ in.
16 in.	Neck	17 in.
40½ in.	Chest	43¼ in.
32½ in.	Waist	33 in.
38 in.	Hips	37 in.
23 in.	Thigh	22½ in.
15½ in.	Calf	15 in.
180 lbs.	Weight	195 lbs.
74½ in.	Reach	72¾ in.

Johnson was born in Galveston, Texas, in 1878, and began his ring career in 1901. He is 6 feet 1¾ inches in height and weighed at the ringside close to 190 pounds.

Burns was born in Hanover, Canada, in 1881, and started fighting when he was 19 years old. He is 5 feet 7¼ inches in height and weighs trained for battle about 175 pounds.

Upon learning of the result of the fight, Joe Gans said: "I know and have boxed with Johnson, and the result bears out my prediction. There is no doubt that he will hold for a long time the heavyweight championship, for I do not think that there is a man living who can defeat him. He has cleverness equal to the best Jim Corbett ever showed, and besides, he is a giant in stature and as quick as a flash."

James J. Jeffries evidenced no surprise when the news reached him that Johnson had won from Burns. "I thought he would win unless they had his legs and hands both tied," was his characteristic comment on the result. "Burns had no right to fight Johnson for the heavyweight championship. I never looked for any other result, but I did not expect the fight to go so far," he added. When he was asked about the probability of bringing off a championship fight in this country between Johnson and the winner of the coming Kaufmann-Barry fight, Jeffries said his club would make an immediate effort to arrange such an affair, but that it would doubtless take some time to decide what could be done about it. He said an offer would be cabled to Johnson at once, and that it would be a substantial one. At present, he said, it is not certain that either Barry or Kaufmann would consent to fight the colored man, both of them having inclinations toward drawing the color line, so far as Johnson is concerned, at least.

JOHNSON'S RECORD SINCE 1903.

Feb. 5, 1903—Denver Ed Martin, won, Los Angeles, twenty rounds.
Feb. 27—Sam McVey, won, Los Angeles, twenty rounds.
April 16—Sandy Ferguson, won, Boston, ten rounds.
May 11—Joe Butler, knockout, Philadelphia, three rounds.
July 31—Sandy Ferguson, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
Oct. 27—Sam McVey, won, Los Angeles, twenty rounds.
Dec. 11—Sandy Ferguson, won, Colma, Cal., twenty rounds.
Feb. 16, 1904—Black Bill, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
April 22—Sam McVey, knockout, San Francisco, twenty rounds.
June 2—Frank Childs, won, Chicago, six rounds.
Oct. 18—Denver Ed Martin, knockout, Los Angeles, two rounds.
March 28, 1905—Marvin Hart, lost, San Francisco, twenty rounds.
April 25—Jim Jeffords, knockout, Philadelphia, four rounds.
May 3—Black Bill, won, Philadelphia, four rounds.
May 9—Walter Johnson, knockout, Philadelphia, three rounds.
May 9—Joe Jeannette, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
June 26—Jack Monroe, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
July 13—Morris Harris, knockout, Philadelphia, three rounds.
July 13—Black Bill, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
July 18—Sandy Ferguson, won on foul, Chelsea, seven rounds.
July 24—George Grim, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
Nov. 25—Joe Jeannette, lost on foul, Philadelphia, two rounds.
Dec. 1—Yg. P. Jackson, won, Baltimore, twelve rounds.
Dec. 2—Joe Jeannette, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
Jan. 16, 1906—Joe Jeannette, no decision, New York, three rounds.
March 15—Joe Jeannette, won, Baltimore, fifteen rounds.
April 19—Black Bill, knockout, Wilkesbarre, seven rounds.
April 26—Sam Langford, won, Chelsea, fifteen rounds.
June 18—Charlie Haghey, won, Gloucester, one round.
Sept. 20—Joe Jeannette, no decision, Philadelphia, six rounds.
Nov. 8—Jim Jeffords, won, Lancaster, Pa., six rounds.
Feb. 19, 1907—Peter Felix, knockout, Sydney, New South Wales, one round.
March 4—J. Lang, knockout, Melbourne, nine rounds.
July 17—Bob Fitzsimmons, knockout, Philadelphia, two rounds.
Aug. 28—Kid Cutler, knockout, Reading, Pa., one round.
Sept. 12—Sailor Burke, won, Bridgeport, six rounds.
Nov. 2—Jim Flynn, knockout, San Francisco, eleven rounds.
June, 1908—Al McNamara, won, Plymouth, four rounds.
July 31—Ben Taylor, knockout, Plymouth, eight rounds.
Dec. 25—Tommy Burns, won, Sydney, New South Wales, fourteen rounds.

Johnson, during his ring career, has fought 64 battles and 22 of his opponents have gone down to defeat by the knockout route. Prominent among those who have been put to sleep by the big champion are Jack Jeffries, a brother of the former heavyweight champion, who was knocked out by Johnson at Los Angeles in 1902 in five rounds; and Bob Fitzsimmons, who, in Philadelphia in 1907, was unable to withstand Johnson's shifty work but two rounds. He has lost but two fights—one a twenty-round decision to Marvin Hart, and the other on a foul to Joe Jeannette.

Johnson has won three fights from Sam McVey, who is now creating a big sensation in Paris France, and fought six fights with Joe Jeannette, who is also going abroad.

PREJUDICE Vs. DESIRE.

Stanley Ketchell Would Like to Fight Johnson, But He Has Drawn the Color Line.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—Stanley Ketchell, middleweight champion of the world, who is now an aspirant for heavyweight honors, said, after hearing of the outcome of the Burns-Johnson fight: "I cannot say now whether I will meet Johnson or not. I realize that he is a clever boxer, and that I will have to at least come even with him in weight and come somewhat closer in height. I have always said I would draw the color line. I had expected to meet Burns in San Francisco July 4. Whether I will meet Johnson for the title remains entirely with my manager, Joe O'Connor. If he can fix it up for me to meet Johnson, it is perfectly satisfactory to me, although as I said I would rather wait until I can compare more favorably with him in height and weight.

"The outcome of the fight was a surprise to me, as I had figured that Burns would win."

NELSON T OFIGHT ONCE MORE.

NEW YORK—"I will fight but one more fight in defense of the championship."

Battling Nelson has spoken. "I realize that I have fought many and many a hard battle for my honors, took more thumpings than ever any man did in the world to gain a title, and I deserve a rest. I have made a lot of money out of the game, but I earned every penny of it honestly.

"Now this final battle which I intend to engage in is this: There are four men who are clamoring for a chance at me, and I believe them to be the foremost lightweights in the world. They are Murphy, Thompson, McFarland and Welch. This is what they will have to do. Say Murphy and Thompson are matched. They must go 45 rounds. There must not be any argument as to who is the better man. McFarland and Welch must then go through the same process. Must not be any hitch here, either. Then the winner of the first bout will have to go 45 rounds with the winner of the last. Then I will meet the winner."

JOHN L. DOESN'T THINK JACK JOHNSON CAN ASSUME TITLE OF CHAMPION.

Burns Was Not a Champion in the First Place.

ST. PAUL, Minn.—John L. Sullivan was not surprised over the outcome of the big fight in Australia.

"The Burns-Johnson fight came out very much as I had predicted," said Sullivan. "Even with his victory over the so-called champion—though in my opinion Burns never was the champion prizefighter of the world—the Negro can't assume the title, for the present-day bouts can not truly be styled prizefights, but only boxing matches, when padded mitts are used.

"I can't see where Johnson will be given a high position in the opinion of the general American public. I believe the American public is fast losing interest in the manly art of self-defense.

"Johnson will undoubtedy get two or three fights in this country after his return, and it will be only a question of time until he runs up against a better man, as is always the case unless a man goes out of the game."

WHAT THE FIGHTERS SAID.

Burns before the fight:

"I will win. I know that Johnson is a clever boxer, but I will show him before the fight is over that I am gamer than he, and I expect to knock him out."

Burns after the fight:

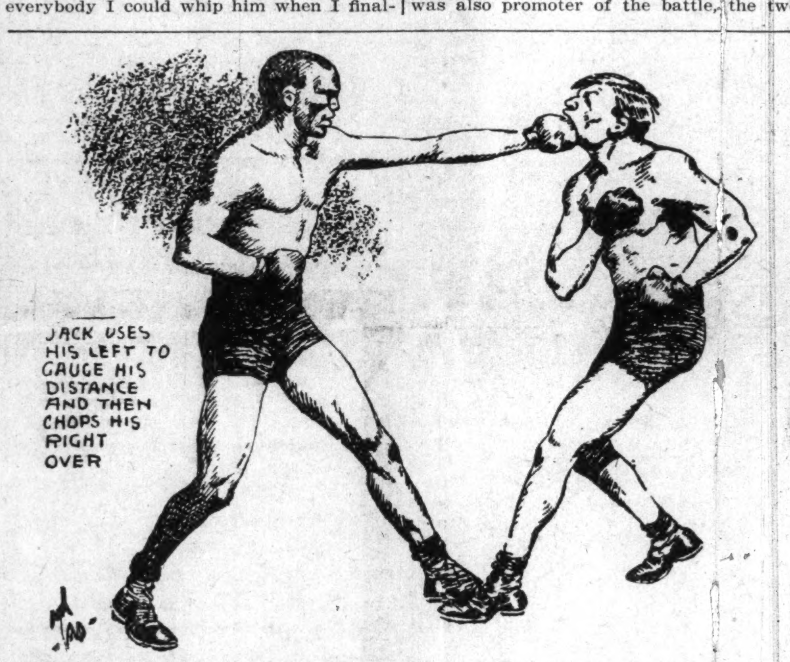
"I did the best I could and fought hard. Johnson was too big and his reach too great. That punch he landed in the first round won the battle for him. Had the fighting been allowed to go on I might have had a chance, but I am willing to acknowledge that I was in bad shape when the police stopped the bout. I am through with the fighting game now forever. I would like to fight Johnson again, but am not willing to wait for months for the chance. He will, of course, go after the easy money now."

Johnson before the fight:

"I will beat Tommy. He's a good one, but not in my class. Bet your money on me. I have confidence in myself; that's enough." Johnson concluded with a grin that meant "'nuff sed."

Johnson after the fight:

"It was even easier than I expected. I chased him around the world and told everybody I could whip him when I finally got him in the ring. I guess all my friends will now believe that everything was on the level. I really could have put Burns away earlier in the battle, but I knew I had him whipped after the first round and simply played with him. I am now ready to fight anyone who aspires to the title and won't draw the color line."



FIGHT FEATURES.

Winner—Jack Johnson.
Loser—Tommy Burns.
Betting—2 to 1 against Johnson.
Estimated Attendance—20,000.
Referee—Hugh McIntosh.
How Won—Stopped by police.
Title at Stake—World's championship.
How Bets Go—Johnson's win counts for a knockout.
Where Fought—Sydney, Australia.
Burns' Share of the Purse—$30,000.
Johnson's End—$5,000.
Number of Rounds Scheduled—20.
Number of Rounds Fought—14.

JACK JOHNSON IS FIRST NEGRO HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., December 27.—For the first time in the history of pugilism a Negro holds the title of heavyweight champion. Jack Johnson, the Texan, won the premier honors in the fighting yesterday. Today Burns is a sorry sight. His eyes are almost closed, his face is puffed up to almost twice its size, while his body bears evidence of the heavy punishment inflicted upon him by the Negro. Johnson, on the other hand, hardly shows any marks of punishment and was around early today as chipper as a bird.

By his victory Johnson's prediction that he was Burns' master at all stages proved true. The Negro who chased the former titleholder half way around the globe to force him into the ring was finally compelled to accept a small proportion of the purse in order to meet the Canadian. Burns eluded the Negro time and again, went from England to France, thence to Ireland and finally to Australia, but the man who shrouded himself with the mantel which James J. Jeffries cast aside when he retired from the ring was finally cornered, but not until the Negro agreed to his terms did Burns sign articles of agreement.

Not only was Burns decisively beaten, but he was practically eliminated from the fighting game. Since he claimed the title Burns has been meeting easy marks. He easily put away Bill Squires, Gunner Moir, Bill Lang and Jim Roche, and not until he met the Negro did the French-Canadian face a man worthy of his prowess.

And Johnson showed Burns up. From the tap of the gong, calling the men to the middle of the ring, the Negro went at his man like a cat playing with a mouse. He slammed the French-Canadian, jabbed him, made a quick get-away and then with the cleverness of a Corbett and the punishing powers of a Fitzsimmons, he began to put blow after blow on his opponents, body, face and head. He knocked him down in the first round and after that although Burns fought gamely, he was no match for the Negro. Johnson's fighting was a revelation to the Australians. Burns had been made favorite in the betting, but after the knockdown in the first round the men who had gambled on the Canadian wanted to hedge. In a word, Johnson made Burns look like a novice. He practically hit to ribbons, and only when the police forced the referee to stop the fight after the beginning of the fourteenth round was the punishment ended and the fight given to Johnson.

It was the largest crowd that ever witnessed a prizefight. When the fight started there were 30,000 persons inside the inclosure and thousands clamoring to get in. The gate, it is said, amounted to over $150,000. The articles of agreement called for Burns to receive $30,000, win, lose or draw, while Johnson's end was $5,000, but added to this he has annexed the title of heavyweight champion, which in itself will more than make up for his small end of the purse.

JACK JOHNSON UNMERCIFULLY SLAUGHTERS TOMMY BURNS IN A ONE-SIDED BATTLE.

Police Stopped Fight in Fourteenth Round—Burns Poor Defender of Heavyweigh Title—He Takes Count of Eight in First Round.

Though Badly Beaten, Burns Gets Big End of Purse—Black Man Now Heavyweight Champion.

Special to The Freeman.

SYDNEY, N. S. W.—Dopesters who made the spread that Jack Johnson would show a yellow streak, lay down, and do a hundred other things to lose his fight with Tommy Burns, are now speechless. In what was scheduled to be a 20-round fight, Johnson was awarded the heavyweight championship title of the world in the fourteenth round. Jack went in on Burns in the first to the last round of the fight and hammered the Canadian so mercilessly that the police of Sydney interfered in the fourteenth round, which probably saved Burns from being savagely beaten into helplessness, and at the same time Referee McIntosh immediately declared Johnson the victor. Throughout the entire fourteen rounds the "Texas Steer" showed more knowledge of the game than Burns, and the Canadian consequently was forced to take all that was in store for him.

The fight was witnessed by 20,000 persons, who composed the most enthusiastic crowd that ever witnessed a prizefight in Australia. The fight was for a purse of $35,000, of which Tommy Burns received $30,000 and Johnson $5,000. Jack's share of the purse was just a little more than the amount to cover his training expenses. Nevertheless he took in a lot of cold cash as a result of winning side bets, which he heavily posted upon himself. The ring was 24 feet square and was surrounded by seats and was in the center of a large arena built especially for the occasion.

Burns, as well as receiving the big end of the money bag, was favorite over Johnson 7 to 4 when he stepped into the ring. A day or two before the fight betting was 10 to 9 in Tommy's favor, but before the end of the scrap Johnson was favorite 2 to 1, which showed the confidence of the fans in Jack defeating the white champion. When the fighters entered the ring each was given a howling welcome. Both fighters were accompanied by five seconds each. The mill was delayed some time by Burns' wearing and refusing to remove bandages which he wore into the ring. Jack insisted that the bandages be taken off. Burns consented to do this after a little bullheading. The black boy dictated this time.

The two contestants stepped to the middle of the ring and posed for the fight pictures. Tommy is to get the lion's share of the money on the pictures too. He will get a tidy sum, as the world is crazy to view them and see how the black boy did it. After the fighters received instructions from Referee McIntosh, who was also promoter of the battle, the two boys began to fight.

Johnson started the bout by sending some sharp jabs and uppercuts to Burns, and with a clean stinger Jack sent the Canadian to the floor to hear Referee McIntosh give the count of eight. On arising, Burns felt a hard swing to his head, which sent him silly for a second or two, and he jumped back to protect himself from a steaming right, which he caught at the sound of the gong. After the first round Burns looked to have fought a dozen rounds. It seemed to be Jack's intention to dazzle the white man in the first of the fight so as to have him at his mercy until the end of their fight.

When the gong sounded for the second round the fans heard Jack tell Burns to "come on"; Burns did so, just in time to get a pretty one on the chin and take the floor. He got up in time to take in several body blows and a few to the face, and went to his corner bleeding from the nose and mouth. Burns began the third with a right to Johnson's head, which brought forth a big broad grin on the black man's face. In the fourth and fifth round they mixed it. Jack took several blows from Burns in the sixth, but greeted them with smiles. Tommy had no force to his wallops. Johnson rushed his opponent in the seventh and they exchanged a few blows; then Jack thumped Tommy several times on the head, body and in the ribs and sent him to the floor for a few seconds. Jack had the eighth, though 'tis nothing strange. "Come on, Tommy; swing your right!" yelled Johnson to Burns as the ninth round began. There was not much fighting with the gloves, but the fighters kept busy swapping words. No etsam in Burns' jabs; the poor lad was sick.

The tenth ended with both tired. The eleventh and twelfth gave the "Texas Steer" the advantage over the white man. In the thirteenth Johnson played on Burns' eye, which Jack closed early in the fight. Tommy, bleeding profusely, was covered with blood and was hammered without pity by awful swings and jabs. Slow and swollen about the face, the white boy tottered around the ring and was saved only by the sweet music of the gong. Referee McIntosh went to Burns' corner to talk over the fight with him. Burns, weary, did his best to appear fresh and strong, but the black battering ram had been too much for him. The police attempted to stop the fight, but McIntosh told them not to interrupt, as Burns said he was all right.

The last round was the fourteenth. Johnson sprang on Burns like a Nubian lion on a Roman gladiator. Tommy tried to dodge the swings of Jack, who looked to have just begun fighting. A right to the head and Tommy again took the floor. He eased up and Jack then took Burns for a toy. Before the round was ended the police stopped the fight and the referee declared Johnson the winner.

Jack Johnson is the only Negro who ever won the heavyweight championship title.

JACK JOHNSON HAS THE CHANCE OF HIS LIFE TO MAKE A FORTUNE.

Has Several Challenges—Jeffries May Fight Him.

Now that Jack Johnson has defeated Tommy Burns and is now heavyweight champion of the world, he may rest assured that he will not have to worry about getting fights. He's got enough of trying to get a crack at Burns, before facing the Canadian in the ring, and now others must make the try. He is champion and he must dictate, though Jack will be more reasonable in making terms than the man from whom he seized the title. The sports are beginning to see now why Burns held off Johnson so long before making a match with him. He was afraid that the ebony fighter would bankrupt him, as he was in the pugilistic game for cash and cash only. This did not take well with a lot of the sporting enthusiasts, because Burns' love for the dollar was causing him to become deaf to the demands of the people. It is true that he was in the game for the money; it was his livelihood, just as it is of hundreds of other fighters. But a fighter of class is somewhat obligated to the sporting world; this Burns seemed to ignore. He says he will now retire. Had he fought Johnson before his several fights across the waters, he would have probably failed to clinch them. He was looking ahead of his nose.

Johnson now has the chance of his life to make a fortune. Already several challenges have been offered him. If he plays Tommy's scheme, he'll give a few knockouts to some out of his class and take in some loose money. Jack has it easier than Burns. The latter in several instances, even while champion, sought three or four of his fights, while Johnson's color will bring many battles. Prejudice is so great against a black man holding the championship title that there are many right at this moment who would take a chance, be it ever so desperate, to grasp the title from Johnson because of his shady hue. Even Jeffries, who once declared he would never again fight a battle, is considering a go with Johnson. Prejudice, that's all. But to say the best of this creeping serpent, it brings good along with it.

Johnson deserves recognition and will get it. He is the most wonderful fighter of the day, regardless of what the gossipers say in reference to his being a second rater. He is a giant in size and in knowledge of the fistic art, as perfect as any. Although he has lost fights to some second raters, they dare not fight the Jack Johnson of today with the idea of defeating the champion.

WILL THEY GET PAY?

That an individual is innocent until proven guilty is the high conception of the thing. The law, as underquired $50,000 is proof that some are satisfied.
stood, is as much interested in making men innocent as it is to make men guilty. The somewhat popular notion is not quite that way. Now-a-days, to be apprehended is too often confounded with guilt—compelling the accused to extricate himself. The Brownsville affair wears some such aspect. Clearly it is the duty of the court to find an individual guilty by indisputable evidence. The principle does not apply so close up in army affairs, where discipline is essential at any cost, dismissing a man or regiment being a party of it for the good of the army. One may see some injustice here, but surely a commander is not going to keep a mutinous army or a sea captain a mutinous crew simply because he can not affix guilt with certainty. We concede the commander such large powers, knowing that the thing desired—discipline—in the best sense can not come without the show of universal authority. As to the abuse of the same the commander or captain will answer to those just above him—the people in some cases.

Many have tried to see too close a relation between the ordinary law courts and the military authority. As we understand it, an individual is yet subject to the civil courts when committing a crime, after the military authorities have done their utmost. If such is true, it shows plainly that the relation of the two courts are not identical. This much, we feel, should be said out of respect for the President, who, as we have said so often, has acted on his best judgment as to his rights in the case and as to the punishment meted out. Regardless of this he is aware of the fact that at least some of the men—he says very few, if any, were innocent—were innocent. He entertains doubt; it is in the favor of the accused always. This would be the rule in the common courts. Special and peculiar courts are not very much different in their manner of prosecution or inquiry. It is to be hoped that the President will not have the very few suffer, since it wrongs the individual, regardless of the discipling intent.

In making a plea for the reinstatement of the men, nothing is denied the executive. Mr. Roosevelt is not guilty of making mistakes, whatever may be said of his strenuosity. He gives evidence of being impetuous; not so suave as some other men might be—yet, withal, based on the written laws and rules of guidance. Really, a reinstatement otherwise than through the President would be a dangerous precedent. This has in mind the known hostility of the races. We believe that the President has in mind the restoration of the men, as innocent men, granting all that go with innocent men.

We think the men are not interested in seeing the President placed in the attitude of being wrong. We want the country to see the case in its true light, showing the impossibility of all of the men being complicated and placing the worst construction on it. We are satisfied that they will not appreciate the lone favor of being permitted to return to the army. The best evidence of a complete restoration will be when it is accomplished by all of the conditions that tend toward completion.

It is not any trouble for us to give you any information concerning our advertisement rates.

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I have in my possession a prescription for nervous debility, lack of vigor, weakened manhood, failing memory and lame back, brought on by excesses, unnatural drains or the follies of youth, that has cured so many worn and nervous men right in their own homes—without any additional help or medicine—that I think every man who wishes to regain his manly power and virility, quickly and quietly, should have a copy. So, I have determined to send a copy of the prescription, free of charge, in a plain, ordinary sealed envelope, to any man who will write me for it.

This prescription comes from a physician who has made a special study of men, and I am convinced it is the surest-acting combination for the cure of deficient manhood and vigor-failure ever put together.

I think I owe it to my fellow man to send them a copy in confidence, so that any man, anywhere who is weak and discouraged with repeated failures may stop drugging himself with harmful patent medicines, secure what, I believe, is the quickest-acting, restorative, upbuilding, SPOT-TOUCHING remedy ever devised, and so, cure himself at home quietly and quickly. Just drop me a line like this: Mr. A. E. Robinson, 3831 Luck Building, Detroit, Mich., and I will send you a copy of this splendid receipt, in a plain, ordinary sealed envelope, free of charge.

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First class line of Wines, Liquors, Cigars and Tobaccos. Headquarters of the I. B. P. O. Elks
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Choice Wines, Liquors, Cigars and Tobacco. Cold Home Beer always on tap.
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Choice Wines and Liquors. Fine Cigars and Tobaccos a Specialty. Courteous treatment.
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Boys Exchange Buffet
A full line of Wines, Liquors and Cigars always on hand. Business Lunch. Good service and courteous treatment to all. When out for a good time, stop in.
Brutus Owens, Prop.,
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Foreign and Domestic Liquors, Wines, Cigars and Tobaccos. Courteous treatment to all.
MY PRICES ARE RIGHT.
Wm. Davis, Prop., Indianapolis.

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Choice Foreign and Domestic Wines, Liquors and Cigars.
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The Ayres Bulletin

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Every suit in the extensive assortment is distinctive, every one is of a fashionable material, in a desirable color. Every suit is made well, finished nicely and up to the Ayres standard in every way. Every suit is bargain-priced as follows:

A large assortment of the season's choicest styles, in plain tailored and hipless models, plain cloths and nobby mixtures, worth $25.00, sale price.......**$19.50**

Some of the prettiest suits of the season are in this group of plain broadcloths and imported novelties, in the new shapes worth $100.00 to $85.00.......**$69.50**

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—Third Floor.

L. S. Ayres & Co.,

Indiana's Greatest Distributors of Dry Goods.

CITY AND SOCIETY.

Mr. A. Oliver of Terre Haute, Ind., was in the city last week.

Mrs. Ida Coleman-Logan of Louisville was in the city Tuesday.

Miss Olivia Chavis went to Chicago Thursday to visit friends.

A. S. Hodge of Shelbyville is spending several days in the city.

Mrs. C. A. Webb spent Christmas visiting friends at Carrollton, Ky.

Mrs. Mattie Haygood Hill will return to her home at Chicago tomorrow.

Mrs. Emanuel E. Phillips has for her guest William Nichols of Greencastle.

Mrs. Lucas Willis entertained the Topaz Cluster Club yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Florida Jones Crutcher of Milwaukee is spending the holidays in this city.

Orestus Hood of the public schools of East St. Louis spent Christmas in the city.

Miss Myrtle Tolliver of Cincinnati spent the week with Mrs. Sallie Brown in this city.

The Wistaria Club was entertained Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Katherine Armistead.

The Woman's Improvement Club will meet next Thursday with Mrs. Clara Bond in Paca street.

The "simultaneous" revival meetings will begin in the city churches at the close of the week of prayer.

George Malone, wife and baby of Logansport spent Christmas as the guests of Mrs. Mary Locklear.

The Woman's Club will meet Monday afternoon with Mrs. Tillie Richardson of 1607 West 25th street.

Miss Lillian Morris entertained a company of young people at her home in Fifteenth street Monday night.

Miss Mary Taylor of Pewee Valley, Ky., spent Christmas with her uncle, Mr. Walker Brown, in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Davis are spending the holidays in this city. Mrs. Davis was formerly Miss Addie Willis.

Mr. Leslie Shores and bride of Lexington, Ky., were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Henderson during Christmas.

Mr. James Shelton, who is undergoing treatment at Dr. Ward's Sanitarium, is pronounced on the road to recovery.

Claud Blacklock of Boston, Mass., spent a few days with his mother, Mrs. Leroy Patterson, and friends last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Johnson of Lexington, Ky., spent Christmas in the city the guests of Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Hummous.

Mr. George Brannard of Keokuk, Iowa, spent the holidays with relatives and friends at Lebanon, Ind., and Indianapolis.

Mrs. Susan West of Lawrence, Kan., who is visiting Mrs. Ella Curry, went to Marion during the week to visit another sister.

Mrs. Bertha Smith Brown, a former resident of the city, now a resident of New York, is visiting her grandmother and her uncle, Tom Smith.

J. A. Hodge, R. A. Roberts of New Albany and E. Jackson of Terre Haute are attending the convention of the Teachers' Association this week.

Mr. M. Littlejohn, Mr. D. C. Adams and Rev. M. Jackson of Louisville, Ky., were the guests of Mr. James Hampton in Fayette street a few days during the holidays.

Theodore Cable, who is spending the holidays with his parents in this city, won a $150 scholarship at the close of the term from Exeter Academy, where he is attending school.

The "Benedicts" will give a reception at Masonic Hall January 15. The officers are: Thomas Simms, president; Joseph Timberlake, vice president; Jeff Porter, secretary; Charles Chavis, treasurer.

Morales, Jackson & Bland, enterprising young men, have engaged in the real estate and brokerage business at 359 1-2 Indiana avenue. They invite the public to call and see them or telephone. New phone 4117.

The Interdenominational Meeting of Colored Ministers will hold its regular monthly session next Tuesday morning at 10:30 at the Colored Y. M. C. A. The Rev. Mr. H. L. Herod will be installed as president.

The marriage of Mr. James Cushinberry and Miss Letta Watson took place at the home of the bride in Martindale avenue Christmas eve. The Rev. R. D. Leonard officiated. They will live in Yandes street.

Stewart Hedgepath of Company E, 8th Illinois Regiment, of Chicago, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bybee in North Missouri street during Christmas. Several social functions were given in his honor while here.

Miss Fannie Black entertained a party of children at her home in West North street last Sunday afternoon in honor of Master Morris Taylor and Maude Morris of Louisville, who are the guests of Dr. and Mrs. S. A. Furniss.

The Lotus Club gave the third of its enjoyable hops at Masonic Hall Monday evening. More than 100 couples were present. The hall, which is one of the prettiest in the city, was made more brilliant in its appearance by the many handsomely gowned women and gentlemen in full evening dress. There were a number of out-of-town guests in attendance. Jackson Bros. orchestra furnished the music. Dancing continued until a late hour.

The pastors of the city will meet with the McColl Bible Class at the Colored Y. M. C. A. from 8 to 9 the first Sunday morning in the new year to encourage the twenty-five men who meet there every Sunday morning and spend an hour in Bible study.

A party of five relatives of Mrs. S. A. Furniss spent Christmas with her. They were from Louisville and included the following: Mesdames Wilhelmina Morriss and Maude Taylor, mother and sister, Chancellor Morris, a brother, Master Morris Taylor and Maude Morris, nephew and niece.

The Baptist Ministers' Alliance, at their meeting at Corinthian Baptist Church next Monday at 11 a. m., will have as the order of the day a continuation of the subject "The Church—The Mystery of God," which was introduced by Rev. C. W. McColl in a Bible reading last Monday morning.

Mrs. Fannie Buckner, wife of Robert Buckner, died Christmas day at her home, 350 Lafayette Place, after a lingering illness. Her funeral was held at Simpson Chapel, of which she was an old member, Monday. She leaves a husband and daughter, Mrs. Julia Cantrell. She was a member of the American Doves and of St. Mary's Temple. She was 52 years of age.

Booker T. Washington and private secretary were the city's guests for several days during the week. The board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. gave an elaborate dinner for Mr. Washington at the home of W. A. Kersey, president of the Y. M. C. A., Thursday evening. He spoke to several large audiences during his stay. Dr. S. A. Furniss entertained in honor of Mr. Washington at dinner Wednesday evening.

One of the prettiest affairs of the season was the Bachelors' hop, given at Odd Fellows Hall Friday evening of last week. The attendance was, as is usual with that of this club's assemblies, made up of the city's representative society people, who were out in large numbers. Many out-of-town people were among the guests. Ices and punch were served freely throughout the evening. Dainty Christmas souvenirs were given each guest. Dancing continued until a late hour.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

Roy Locklear, a well-known young man, met with a serious accident during the week and narrowly escaped the loss of a limb or perhaps being killed outright. He attempted to step between a cut of cars standing at the crossing of Indiana avenue and the Big Four Railway when the cars moved and his foot was caught in the bumper. Several toes were crushed, but he escaped without other injury. He is at Dr. Ward's Sanitarium and is reported to be doing well.

THE YOUNG COLORED WOMEN'S PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

Miss Dayse Deane Walker, president of the Young Colored Women's Protective Association, after an extended trip through the East in the interest of her work, is once more at home. Miss Walker has visited the greater number of associations supported for the benefit of the colored girl, and is greatly impressed and encouraged with the work being done. She has many new plans for the development of the home work and hopes to make it measure up to the standard of the most progressive in the country.

MISS DAYSE DEANE WALKER.

The vesper services will begin soon and a series of concerts in which some of the best talent in the race will star, is the promise of the near future.

All members of the association are urged to be present Monday night at the building for the election of officers and organization of new clubs.

DEATH NOTICE.

The death of Mrs. Mildred Waddell occurred at her home in New York Christmas day. Mrs. Waddell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Morris of this city. Chicago papers please copy.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Concerning James Johnson, 12 years; wore gray sweater, with high red collar and cuffs, blue blouse pants, brown coat, grey stockings, cap. Was in Indianapolis December 19. Address Mrs. Capitola Johnson, 701 South Madison street, Muncie, Ind., or Chief of Police, Indianapolis.

IN HONOR OF MISS WARD.

Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Ward entertained to a large company of young people at their home in Indiana avenue Monday evening in honor of their sister, Miss Minerva Ward, this being her first party. Miss Ward was assisted in receiving her guests by Misses Mayme Locklear and Maureen Moss. The house was tastily decorated for the occasion. Dancing was a feature, for which Robert Douglass' orchestra furnished the music. Many handsome dresses were worn. Dainty refreshments were served. The punch bowl was in charge of Marion Shelton and Eva May Milligan.

ENTERTAINS THE TOPAZ.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gee, who is temporarily making her home in the city, was the hostess last Wednesday at her home, 1215 North Senate avenue, for an elaborate function given in honor of the Topaz Cluster Club, of which she is a member, and of Miss Alice Thomas of French Lick, who is the guest of Mrs. James Martin, and a number of invited guests.

The house was profusely decorated with holly and cut flowers, heavy festoons of holly entwined the stair railing and it was also heavily banked in clusters over the arches and about the grill work of the doors. The handsome gowns worn by the women present were the subject of much comment. An elaborate menu was served in six courses, the last of which was dainty baskets made of ice cream in which were served fresh strawberries. Prize whist was a feature. The prizes were handsome cut glass articles.

MISS THORNTON'S "DEBUT."

One of the pretty events of the week was the "debut" party given in honor of Miss Adelaide Thornton, by her mother, Mrs. Benjamin Thornton, at the home, 533 Bright street, last Tuesday evening. There were over fifty of the city's representative young people in attendance, among whom were the following from out of the city: Miss Alice Thomas, French Lick; Miss Ithigenia Cole, San Antonio, Tex.; Miss Idelle Love, Muskogee, I. T.; Miss Ruth Pettiford, Franklin, Ind.; Theodore Cable, Exeter, N. H.

The house was tastily decorated with Christmas colors. The table in the dining room held a mound of holly and red immortelles and ferns, while suspended from the chandelier above was a large Christmas bell from which ribbon was stretched to the corner of the table, and at which were placed cut glass candelabra, with red wax tapers. Two guessing contests were features of the occasion. The first was a "hollyberry contest." Miss Myrtle Broadie won first prize, which was a volue of Irving's Sketches." The prize for the second, a box of fine stationery, was won by Miss Ada Morris. Miss Thornton was the recipient of several gifts in honor of the occasion. Elegant refreshments were served. The favors were Christmas caps.

THE KNIFE AND FORK CLUB.

An organization, unique in character, was inaugurated in Indianapolis during the recent engagement of the Smart Set. S. H. Dudley and J. Ed Green were entertained by this club at the home of J. D. Howard, 405 South Muskingum street. Discussions of theatrical evolution and construction of stage craft were the principal topics. Mr. Dudley was the toastmaster. His introductory remarks were confined to a brief resume if his career in "stickdoom," backed up by a very scholarly review of the Negro "in stock" by J. Ed Green.

The personnell of the club is composed of Ray Moreles, E. C. Knox, J. D. Howard, J. A. Jaxon and Archie Greathouse. The membership cannot be changed unless a member dies. The purpose of the club is the entertainment of out-of-town guests of theatrical or commercial prominence.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The regular activities of the association will resume after the close of the holiday season on next week. The winter term of night school and day school will begin a special rate of $1 for a three months' tuition is offered to all men who wish to join. The gymnasium classes, which are conducted on Monday and Friday evenings, will also start on that date. The Boys' Bible Study Club will meet on every Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. and is open to all boys from 12 to 17 years of age. The Wednesday night class, which is taking up the "Life Problems" and is being taught by Rev. D. F. White, is proving of great interest to the men. The McColl Bible Class, which meets on Sunday mornings, keeps up in attendance and interest. Next Sunday morning the city pastors are invited to attend. Rev. C. W. McColl is the teacher. All Bible work in the association is open to men free of charge.

Commencing Monday, January 4, and continuing for ten days during the special revival service in the city, a Union noon meeting will be held in the association rooms each day beginning promptly at 12:15 p. m., and running to 12:45 p. m. A fifteen-minute talk will be given each day by some pastor. Monday Rev. H. J. Callis; Tuesday, Rev. P. C. Williams; Wednesday, Rev. D. F. White, and so on each day. The public is invited.

"Overcomers" will be the unique subject of a strong address to be delivered Sunday at the "Monster Meeting," which is held in Jones Tabernacle. Rev. C. W. McColl, president of the National Colored Anti-Saloon League of America, will be the speaker of the day. A rare treat is in store for all who turn out, and the managers of the "Monster Meeting" are in hope that a large crowd will be present. The orchestra is making special preparation for the occasion and promptly at 3 p. m. the program begins. All men are invited. This is the great men's meeting conducted by men for men. Come, men, let us build up that which is our own.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Any information of the whereabouts of Marian Sharp. Sam, John and Melvina are her sons and daughter, who were owned by Susan Sharp (white), and lived at Petersburg, Va. My name is Rachel Sharp, and I live at 108 Buford street, Dallas, Tex. I ask the kind consideration of every one in helping me to find my people through The Freeman.

THE PARKER HOUSE.

My Dear—I write you again, and as usual from the Parker House, the well-known hotel conducted by Mr. Duerson. Not long since Cole and Johnson and their set were here, and, by the way, a most congenial lot of folks. As it is always in hotels, we regular people had to get along the best we could until the rush was over, yet we enjoyed it; it gave us variety, and you know we need that so much. You are expected over at any time. The best room will be reserved for you. As to the meals, leave that to Mr. Duerson. Mr. Dudley would say, just call him. He solicits the public generally. Don't forget the address.

A FREE HOMESTEAD.

One hundred acres, mineral, coal, agriculture or timber lands, located in nearly all of the states South, West and Southwest of Florida and in North Dakota and A'aska. Government properties. Land absolutely free; $250.00 furnished each applicant to defray the expences of moving, building and improving the premises. Total expenses $75.00, including attorney fee, cost of filing application, recording the deed and transportation to the land. Extra gifts for exsailors, soldiers, seamen and marines (if living, if dead, for their relatives) of the army, navy or marine corps of the United States. Why pay rent? Owne a home of your own on the government land. State location desired and send stamp for full particulars. Address D. AUGUSTUS WRIGHT,
1248 3rd St., S. W.,
Washington, D. C.

J. ED GREEN ENTERTAINS.

During the recent engagement of the "Smart Set" in Indianapolis, J. Ed Green, the well-known playwright and performer, touring this season with the "Smart Set," entertained at dinner the Freeman staff and several others at the home of his sister, Miss Jennette Green. The affair was ultra fashionable in detail. The menu consisted of a good old-fashioned New England Christmas dinner, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Aside from the Freeman staff many guests were present too numerous to mention who were a unit in their expressions of praise for their entertainment.

A UNIQUE SCHEME.

The custom of some progressive colored citizens here of late to club together and buy their groceries and general supplies for their homes in a body is proving one of the greatest saving schemes to the consumer put forth in recent years. For instance, it has come to us that the Standard Tea and Grocery Co. has provided a club of families who sought him out to buy their provisions collectively, with prices that saved them more than one-half on each article purchased. The amount of the order plaecd with him was several hundred dollars, and by his advantages with the wholesale dealers he was enabled to save them nearly 50 per cent. on each article purchased and make a sufficient profit to interest him in the solicitation of further deals along the same line. If you are interested in the proposition, all you have to do is to call up the Standard Tea and Grocery Co., and they will take pleasure in telling you how to organize, that you may be able to take advantage of this wonderful chance to save you one-half the price on all groceries and supplies. Get together and tell your neighbors about it. All you have to do is to get five or six interested in the scheme, and then submit your membership to Mr. Jackson, of the aforesaid firm, and he will do the rest.

The Eighth Annual Review of the Stage, by Sylvester Russell, will appear in The Freeman January 9. Order copies from your newsdealer or send direct to this office.

The Assurance

That my reduced expenses gives you a reduction on your purchases is an inducement for trading with me.

Watches, Rings and Diamonds.

J. P. Mullally,

Diamonds and Jewelry, 28 Monument Place

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Cloak Sale!

Ladies' and Misses' cloaks beautiful line of fine materials in black and colors, all new and up-to-date styles nicely trimmed.

Regular **$25.00** Cloaks for............**$14.75**

Regular **$17.50** Cloaks for............**$9.75**

Regular **$10.00** Cloaks for............**$5.98**

Regular **$6.50** Cloaks for............**$3.98**

CLASSIFIED COLUMN

FOR SALE.

The genuine Carter's Rheumatic Remedy sent by mail on receipt of price 50 cts (stamps) Has cured others; will cure you. Address R.P. Blodau, druggest. Indianapolis. Ind.

FOR RENT

Three and four room flats; new building; modern improvemnts: eight and nine dollars, to desirable colored tenants. Morales, Jaxon & Bland 359½ Indiana Ave.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED—Colored agents; Good pay. Chowning Card Co., Indianapolis Ind.

Bennett Bros.: Transfer, Coal, Kindling, Flour, and Feed, 417 Indiana Avenue, New Phone 2977.

Have you rooms, furnished or unfurnished, to rent? If so, list them with Morales, Jaxon and Bland, 359½ Indiana Ave. No charge for listing—25c if we rent them. Telephone 4117.

WANTED—To know the whereabouts of John W. Moseley, his Post Office Box was 135 Dyersburg, Tenn. Address Sandy Anderson, Mineola, Tex.

WANTED—Stenographer with machine, desirous of opening Public Stenographic Bureau, willing to exchange services for office rent. Apply Morales, Jaxon and Bland, 359½ Indiana Avenue.

Mrs. Arabell Derry will begin a class in embroidery work at 324 Indiana Ave., January 4th, 1909. All who wish to take lessons in this fancy sewing should enroll their names at once call at 508 W. Michigan St. or 324 Indiana Ave.

A PRIVATE TIP

We will mail it sealed to any person of either sex, who is married or expects to marry, and can keep a secret; sure and harmless; try it. 25 cents in silver brings it. Address Pittman Chemical Co., 728 5th Ave., East, Duluth, Minn.

Remember the folks at home by having THE FREEMAN sent to their address one year. Special reduction until Jan. 1. $1 for 52 issues. Send your orders today.

IN THE LEAD.

Cafe, Restaurant, Oyster Bay.
Open Day and Night-
Private Dining Room in Connection.
C. Raines. 416 Indiana Ave.

Straighten Your Hair

DEAR SIRS:—I have used only one bottle of your pomade and now I would not be without it, for it makes my hair **soft and straight** and easy to comb and also starts a new growth.
MRS. W. F. WALKER, Sta. 1—Harriman, Tenn.

Ford's Hair Pomade

(Formerly known as Ozonized Ox Marrow)

Fifty years of success has proved its merits. The use of Ford's Hair Pomade makes stubborn, harsh, kinky or curly-hair straight, soft and glossy and easy to comb, and arrange in any style desired consistent with its length. Removes and prevents dandruff, invigorates the scalp, stops the hair from falling out or breaking off and gives it new life and vigor. Absolutely harmless—used with splendid results even on the youngest children. Delicately perfumed, its use is a pleasure, as ladies of refinement everywhere declare. Ford's Hair Pomade has imitators. Don't buy anything else alleged to be "just as good." If you want the best results, buy the best Pomade—it will pay you. Look for this name

Charles Ford Prest

on every package.

If your druggist cannot supply you with the genuine, we will send you

One bottle regular size for	$ .50
Three bottles " "	1.40
Six " "	2.50
One bottle, small "	.25

We pay postage and express charges to all points in U.S.A. When ordering send Postal or Express Money Order. All orders shipped promptly on receipt of price. Address

The Ozonized Ox Marrow Co.,
153 East Kinzie St. Chicago, Ill.

FORD'S HAIR POMADE is made only in Chicago by the above firm.
Agents Wanted Everywhere.

Business Locals.

Seaton the Hatter, 29 N. Pennsylvania street, sells the Stetson Hats.

Woodbine Perfume, Oh! how fragrant exquisite, enchanting, bewitching. Only at Blodau's Drug Store.

'Phone your wants to us. We call for and deliver prescriptions. Anything ordered by 'phone will be selected as carefully as if you called in person. No extra charges. Gauld's Pharmacy, New 1178; Old, Main 4032.

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Our Men's and Women's Shoes are all Union Made and Stamped.

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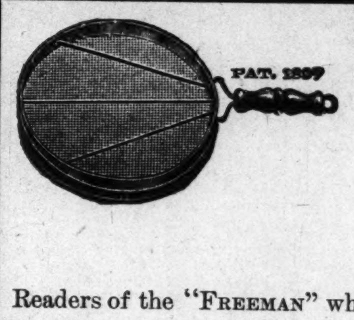

Who Likes Toast

Readers of the "FREEMAN" who use a Gas Range may go to the Gas Office on Monday, January 4th, and get a new

"FAIRGRIEVE" TOASTER

Free of charge. Given with the compliments of

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Delays are Dangerous

Insure your property against loss by **FIRE**. We have strong companies, prompt and fair adjustments.

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Rough Dry by the Pound.

GEM LAUNDRY. PHONE 1671.

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MORE AND BETTER RUBBER, STRONG, NON-RUSTING, UNBREAKABLE PARTS, ENDS AND BUTTON-HOLES THAT WON'T BREAK OR PULL OUT, ENABLE US TO POSITIVELY GUARANTEE THAT

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